



Milton Conservation Society

Representing Milton and Shorefields Conservation Areas



Newsletter - Winter 2019

www.miltonconservationsociety.com

Welcome to this winter edition of our newsletter - later than normal but we wish you a belated Happy New Year anyway.

Quiz Night - Friday 1st February.

As winter starts to get a grip our Quiz Night is being taken out of its box and dusted down to provide some light relief. Previous years have been successful and fun and with fish & chips included it's a night to enjoy.

This year's event will take place on Friday 1st February at Barons Court School from 7.00 onwards - the quiz to start at 7:30.

Why not get some friends together to make up a table or come alone as we can match you up on the night. We are used to bringing our own drinks and glasses too. This year why bring some cutlery too and see if we can cut down on the amount of rubbish we throw away at the end - especially disposable glasses as well as plastic knives and forks.

Once again, tickets cost £10 (£5 for children) which includes Fish and Chips or a vegetarian alternative and are available now from Tony at 15 Park Crescent or Julia at 15 Park Terrace - contact details below.

Conservation Area Responsibilities - A Regular Reminder.

Despite this regular reminder every year sees several residents having to replace recently fitted windows needlessly because they have not heeded this advice.

Do not fit UPVC windows or doors to your property where they can be seen from the road or side road. As this is a Conservation Area any new windows or doors fitted should be in the style and material as originally fitted when the property was built. In nearly all cases that means timber.



There are many other types of work where additional planning controls apply and permission is normally only given if proposed development preserves or enhances the property's character. Demolition of buildings and work to trees are also controlled.

If in doubt, ask before you commit yourself so you don't have to pay twice. The council offers a simple guide available on its website www.southend.gov.uk - a link is also available from our website.

AGM Report

This years AGM took place on Sat 15th July with some 40 members in attendance. We were also pleased to welcome with Councillor Nevin.

Key points from the meeting comprised

- Although we lobbied unsuccessfully against the demolition of the Britannia pub the Council did agree that the facade should be retained.
- Upvc windows continue to be installed to the detriment of the area. We continue to press the Council to take action where necessary.
- The coach house to the rear of 62 Avenue Road represents a significant heritage asset that has been put at risk by inappropriate work carried by the Council itself and which they now wish to demolish because it is deemed to be unsafe. We continue to press for its restoration.
- The perception of conservation is changing nationally from something that limits people's freedom towards looking upon our heritage as something of value to be cherished.
- However we also noted that the Royal Society of Arts recently launched a Heritage Index. Southend features within the top 2% for its assets reflecting the history of the town and its connection to maritime and military events but in the bottom 20% for its actions to protect that heritage.

- Locally our area is in good shape with many residents making good efforts to conserve and enhance their property sympathetically and in keeping with its history.
- The Society continues to support those helping improve Hamlet Court Road where heritage can help with regeneration and we hope that similar efforts can be made to support the High Street.

Parking 1

At the last AGM the question of parking was raised again and the Chairman reported that Society had been asked by Councillor Garston to undertake a survey of resident's views about whether to introduce a parking management scheme for the six roads in Milton Conservation Area. This we were happy to do and our work was well advanced with both a paper and online version about to be launched when we discovered that Councillor Garston - no doubt responding to pressure from some residents - was delivering a paper survey of his own without either letting us know what he planned or finding out what stage we were at so rather than cause confusion we had to scrap ours.

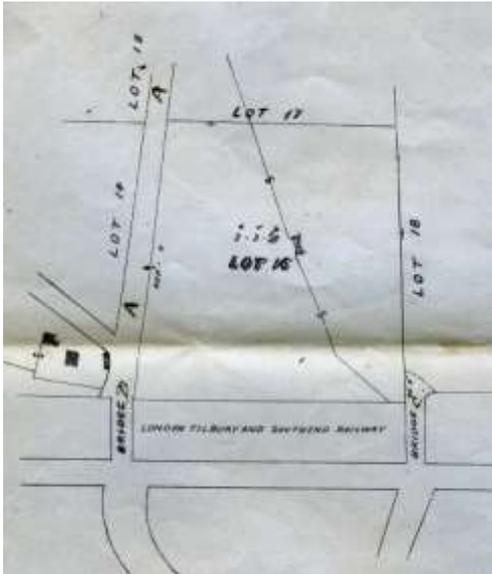
We have had no news on the result of the latest survey (we did ask!).

Parking 2

We had several reports last year of near misses at the junction of Avenue Road and Park Road cause by increasingly dangerous parking on the traffic Island obscuring the view of motorists turning right into Avenue Road or pedestrians crossing. We are pleased to report that the Council has responded to our lobbying and with the support of Cllr Garston is proposing a parking ban on the traffic island.

Anniversary 2019

This year will mark the 150th anniversary of the sale of the lands designated as the Southend Park Estate on which we all live. This land was sold in lots from June 1869 onwards with a central plot reserved as open space to act as a focal point much like Prittlewell Square had been for a previous tranche which had become the Cliff Town Estate. The land owner, the Lord of the Manor of Prittlewell, Daniel Scratton, was aware that Southend must develop but wanted to ensure that this would happen in a sympathetic way.



This plan dated September 1869 is from an indenture transferring the ownership of Lot 16 from Mr Scratton to Thomas Dowsett and John George Baxter. It shows the windmill as the only structure standing while Park Road is marked out as road A.

Mr Baxter, described as a London Fish Merchant, also purchased Lot 14 in the plan which he donated to the Methodist Conference to build a church. Another benefactor Mr Cater built a school and chapel on the site which opened on June 26th 1870. The

foundation stone for the main church was laid on 4th March 1871.

Some 150 years later we await a decision on the recent planning application to convert the site to residential usage - how times change!

Help and Advice

We are often asked to help residents with their queries over fences, parking or their properties. We are happy to do this but we have one qualification - you must be a member of the Society. To join - email us or see our website.

Contact Us

Chairman	Mr Tony Brown	15 Park Crescent	394094
Vice-Chairman	Mr Andrew Atkinson	28 Park Road	437722
Secretary	Mrs Julia Cannon	15 Park Terrace	331941
Treasurer	Mr Paul Cavanagh	1 Park Crescent	340498

Other Executive Members: Jill Freeth (Park Crescent), Neil Lands (Avenue Terrace), Julia Lowe (Park Gate). Michael Mann, Eddie Cannon (Park Terrace)

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