

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT WHICH HAS LED TO POSITIVE OUTCOMES

Canvey Island Town Council engage and listen to its community on an ongoing basis to deliver positive outcomes.

The Town Council has recently refurbished the iconic Band Stand at the centre of the seafront location. This community asset had been left to deteriorate and was unused. Responding to residents and visitors requests the Band Stand will now be enhanced further by holding regular events during the summer periods and the council is working with local businesses and community groups to make use of this community asset. The council have used its earmarked reserves allocated for this project and will look to provide a free resource for the community. It was hoped that this would be progressed for the summer of 2020, however, the COVID-19 outbreak has forced the council to postpone these plans until 2021.

The Town Council have been successful in its application to obtain free trees from the Woodlands Trust to enable it to plant 15 trees at Tewkes Creek. Responding to resident's request for more trees to be planted, the Town Council have worked with Castle Point Borough Council as the landowner to seek permission and agree a location for the trees. The ongoing maintenance will be conducted by the Borough Council after a 3year maintenance scheme has been implemented with the use of the Town Councils allocated funds for this small project. The tree planting took place in November 2020.

The Town Council set up its own Heritage Plaque Scheme in 2018 to enhance the historic achievements of its town or residents and has been working with Canvey Community Archives to investigate potential individuals to commemorate. The Council have erected three plaques around the island to commemorate Frederick Hester and those residents who lost their lives in the great flood of 1953, however, the first plaque was erected as part of the scheme on the 1st October 2019 following a suggestion by a resident. The Council have allocated £1,245.00 for the scheme to erect at least 5 plaques per year. Following the successful installation of the first plaque there have been a further three more requests from the community which have been considered and or are under consideration.

The Town Council conduct many litter picking events during the year and is a keen supporter of the Great British Beach Clean events. The last two taking place on the 23rd September 2019 & 23rd February 2020. These events attract many volunteers and are supported by local businesses. Both events have been extremely successful and attracted 50 volunteers in 2019 and 30 volunteers in 2020. The council is supported by the Borough Council who have been kind enough to provide littering picking equipment free of charge and the council had recently applied to the Micro Fund to purchase its own litter picking equipment for an event in April 2020, however, due to the COVID-19 outbreak this could not take place. Funding has now been sourced through Essex County Council to purchase 50 Litter Picking Packs for a Big Canvey Clean Up which will take place with the support of the Essex County Councillor once COVID-19 restrictions are lifted.