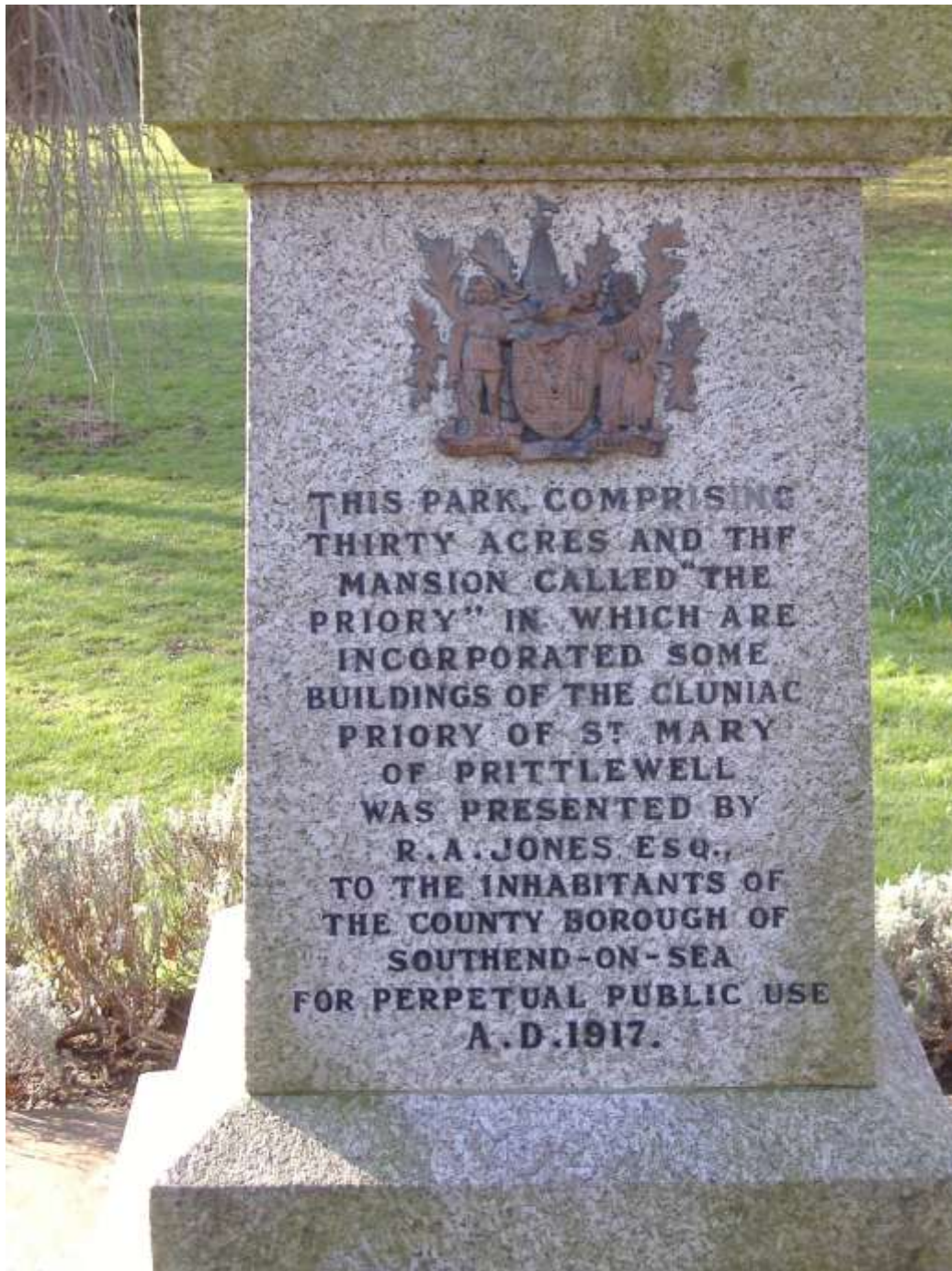


Southend Borough Park Watch Toolkit



THIS PARK, COMPRISING
THIRTY ACRES AND THE
MANSION CALLED "THE
PRIORY" IN WHICH ARE
INCORPORATED SOME
BUILDINGS OF THE CLUNIAN
PRIORY OF ST. MARY
OF PRITTLEWELL
WAS PRESENTED BY
R. A. JONES ESQ.,
TO THE INHABITANTS OF
THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF
SOUTHEND-ON-SEA
FOR PERPETUAL PUBLIC USE
A. D. 1917.

Overview

The Southend Park Watch scheme covers all of the parks, open spaces and cemeteries in the Borough of Southend-on-Sea. It works in a similar way to Neighbourhood Watch by encouraging park users to take a personal interest in the parks that they use and to report incidents of crime and anti-social behaviour to the police or other agencies promptly. The scheme relies very heavily on the local knowledge that park users acquire as they make use of their local park, recreation ground or public open space. Regular visitors such as walkers and dog owners tend to increase their local knowledge as they go about their perambulation around the park

There are sixty-five parks, gardens, recreation grounds, playgrounds and amenity open spaces in the Borough and nine cemeteries including the crematorium. In the case of the latter, visitors are asked to report any concerns that they have regarding crime and anti-social behaviour promptly to the police. This toolkit is designed to act as a guide for Park Watch members and for users of Southend Borough's parks, open spaces and cemeteries

Park Watch in Action

Specific projects are run under the auspices of Southend Park Watch to improve the environment and to provide leisure facilities for the younger members of the community. To date projects have been run at Southchurch Park East where a wildlife conservation area has been created. This was achieved with considerable input from the local primary school in the form of tree whip planting. Park users also assisted in monitoring wildlife specifically the park's resident swans. A skate park has also been created at Bournes Green Park. Other projects are currently in the pipeline. The Southend Park Watch scheme has also got its own dedicated Website – see appendix 2

Wildlife

Our parks provide a habitat for a whole range of birds, wildfowl, mammals and reptiles all of which are protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act of 1981. Two of our parks contain dedicated nature reserves (viz Belfairs and Gunners) and a number have wildlife conservation areas. Belton Hills (public open space) is also a dedicated local nature reserve. In addition to our indigenous population of wildlife, the larger lakes and ponds in our parks are often used as *stop off* points for migrating birds. In recent years Pochard Ducks, Great Crested Grebes and even an Egyptian Goose have taken up temporary residence in our parks. Our cemeteries also provide habitats for wildlife.

As with other forms of crime and anti-social behaviour, incidents involving wildlife, flora and fauna in our parks, public open spaces, and cemeteries should be reported to the police promptly providing as much detail as possible – see the What to do if you see an incident section below

Dogs

Dogs are welcome in all of our parks subject to them being kept under control and their faeces being cleared up – each park has ample dog waste bins for faeces to be deposited in. In conservation areas and in areas where wildfowl live, dog owners are asked to keep their dogs on a lead, especially

during the nesting season. This also applies to bridle paths where horses may be being ridden. A copy of the SBC Dog Control Orders can be found in Appendix 3

Who to Contact

Crime: If you see crime in progress whether this be graffiti tagging, theft, or violent crime, etc., or you fear for your own or another's safety you should call **999** (alternatively 112 on a mobile) and ask for the police.

If you need to report an incident or crime *after* it has happened, you can contact the police on the non-emergency number which is 101. This will connect you with the Essex Police call centre who can then direct your call to the appropriate department.

Anti-Social Behaviour: (ASB) This covers a wide range of nuisance type issues and can range from excessively loud music to loutish behaviour. The basic definition of ASB is as follows: Anti-social behaviour can be a variety of behaviour covering a whole complex of selfish and unacceptable activity that can blight the quality of life of a particular individual, group or community. It can be, but not restricted to the following:

Environmental – e.g. litter, graffiti, vandalism, fly tipping, damage

Nuisance – e.g. drug dealing, prostitution, begging, loud music, hoax calls

Personal – intimidation, harassment

Southend Borough has a dedicated, multi-agency team that deals with anti-social behaviour issues. They can be contacted on Southend (01702) 423504. NB This number should **not** be used to crime in progress

Contacts for local policing units: Each area has a dedicated Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) comprising a Neighbourhood Sergeant, Constable and Police Community Support Officers. They can be contacted for advice, but **not** to report crime, on a dedicated mobile telephone. The contact numbers for each team can be found in appendix 1 which provides a list of all Parks and open spaces in the Borough of Southend-on-Sea

What should you do if you see an incident

If you see an incident taking place it is essential that you contact the police as soon as possible with the following information, using 999 if you are witnessing crime taking place or you fear for your own or another's safety. Advise the call taker of the location of the incident together with brief details of what is taking place e.g. youths throwing stones at swans on a lake. Add a description of the person(s) responsible i.e. male, female, dress, skin colour, ethnicity, distinguishing features (e.g. long hair, bearded) Details of any vehicles involved including registration mark, colour of vehicle etc. if perpetrators have left the scene, description of travel. Finally, provide your details so that you can be contacted by the police if necessary. This can be quite discrete if desired

Appendix 1

Directory of Parks and Open Spaces and the Neighbourhood Policing Team Mobile phone number for the policing team that covers each

PARK/OPEN SPACE	NPT MOBILE NUMBER
Alexandra Bowling Green	07817968114
Belfairs Nature Reserve	07817968093
Belfairs Park	07817968093
Belton Hills/Marine Parade Gardens	07817968093
Belton Hills Nature Reserve	07817968093
Blenheim Park	07817968093
Bonchurch Recreation Ground	07817968093
Bournes Green Park	07974148602
Branscombe Square Gardens	07974148602
Burleigh Square Gardens	07974148602
Caulfield Road	07710086590
Cavendish Sports Ground	07817968093
Chalkwell Esplanade	07817968093
Chalkwell Park	07817968093
Cheldon Barton	07710086590
Christchurch Road	07817968114
Churchill Gardens	07817968114
Cluny Square	07974148602
Cockethurst Park	07816661693
Cricket Field	07710086590
Dandies Playground	07816661693
Danescroft Playground	07817968093
Delaware Road	07710086590
Eastern Esplanade	07976325346
Eastwood Park	07816661693
Edwards Hall Park	07816661693
Elm Road Sports Ground	07710086590
Fairfax Drive	07817968093
Fairfield Crescent	07816661693
Friars Park	07710086590
Gainsborough Drive	07817968093
Garon Park	07974148602
Gunners Park	07710086590
Jones Memorial	07974148602
Leigh Cliffs	07817968093
Leigh Library Gardens	07817968093
Leigh Marshes	07817968093

Lifstan Way	07974148602
Manners Way	07816661693
Maplin Way North	07710086590
Milton Road Gardens	07817968114
Oakwood Recreation Ground	07816661693
Owls Hall Wood	07817968093
Priory Park	07817968093
Prittle Brook Greenway	07817968093
Prittlewell Square	07817968114
Ridgeway Gardens	07817968093
Scott Park	07816661693
Shoebury Common	07710086590
Shoebury East Beach	07710086590
Shoebury Park	07710086590
Shoebury War Memorial	07710086590
Sidmouth Avenue	07816661693
Southchurch Hall Gardens	07817968114
Southchurch Park	07976325346
Southchurch Park East	07976325346
Southend Cliffs	07817968114
The Fairway	07817968093
The Leas	07817968093
The Shrubbery	07817968114
Thorpe Bay Gardens	07976325346
Undercliff Gardens	07817968093
Victory Sports Ground	07974148602
Warners Park	07974148602
Warrior Square Gardens	07817968114
Westbarrow Hall	07816661693

Appendix 2

Useful information and contacts

Community Engagement Officer - (01702) 464199 southendnhw@aol.com

Crime Reduction Officer – (01702) 423187

Crimestoppers 0800 555 111

Essex Police Emergency number 999 (non-emergency number) 101

Greenspace (the National Parks Charity) www.green-space.org.uk

Park Watch Administrator – (01702) 464199 southendnhw@aol.com

SMAART Team (Anti-Social Behaviour) (01702) 423504

Southend Borough Council Parks – (01702) 215011

www.southend.gov.uk/info/200073/parks_and_open_spaces/44/parks_gardens_and_nature_reserves

Southend Community Safety Unit – (01702) 464199

Southend Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership website www.southendcdrp.co.uk

Southend Park Watch Website – www.southendparkwatch.org.uk

Wildlife & Conservation Groups

Butterfly Conservation www.butterfly-conservation.org.uk

Essex Amphibian and Reptile Group www.earg.org

Essex Bat Group www.essexbatgroup.org.uk

Essex Heritage Trust www.essexheritagetrust.co.uk

Essex Wildlife Trust www.essexwt.org.uk

RSPB (Southend) www.southendrspb.co.uk

Appendix 3 – Dog Control Orders

**SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BOROUGH COUNCIL
NOTICE OF MAKING OF CONTROL OF DOGS ORDERS
THE CLEAN NEIGHBOURHOODS AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 2005
THE DOG CONTROL ORDERS (PRESCRIBED OFFENCES AND PENALTIES, ETC) REGULATIONS 2006**

NOTICE is hereby given that Southend-on-Sea Borough Council has made Orders pursuant to powers under the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005. The Orders will come into effect on **10th August 2009**. There will be exemptions for blind people with guide dogs; disabled people using trained assistance dogs and Police & rescue dogs on official duty.

The Orders will require persons in charge of dogs to:

1. Immediately remove faeces deposited by their dogs. This Order applies to all land which is within the administrative area of Southend-on-Sea Borough Council and which is:-
 - (i) open to the air (which includes land that is covered but open to the air on at least one side); and
 - (ii) to which the public are entitled or permitted to have access with or without payment.
2. Not to take more than four dogs at any one time onto specified land. This order applies to any land in the administrative area of Southend-on-Sea Borough Council open to the air and to which the public are entitled to have access (with or without payment).
3. Keep dogs on a lead at all times in the following areas:
The Order applies to:
 1. Each and every length of road including adjacent pavements and verges within the administrative area of Southend-on-Sea Borough Council.
 2. All allotments.
 3. All promenades.
 4. The following formal gardens:
Chalkwell Park Formal Gardens, Southchurch Park Formal Gardens, Churchill Gardens
Leigh Library Gardens, Prittlewell Square, Southchurch Hall Gardens, The Shrubbery
Priory Park Foundation area walled garden and Centenary garden
 5. The following bowling greens:
Belfairs Park Bowling Greens, Chalkwell Esplanade Bowling Greens, Cavendish Bowling Green,
Eastwood Park Bowling Green, Priory Bowling greens, Southchurch Park Bowling Green,
Shoebury Park Bowling Green
Green areas along the beaches (during 1st May to 30th September only).
 6. The following cemeteries:
Sutton Road Cemetery, North Road Burial Ground, Leigh Cemetery, London Road
Crematorium and memorial grounds
 7. The following churchyards:
St. Mary's Church, Holy Trinity Church, St. Clements Churchyard, St. John's Churchyard
4. Keep dogs on a lead, no longer than 6 feet in length when requested to do so by an Authorised Officer. This order applies to any land in the administrative area of Southend-on-Sea Borough Council open to the air and to which the public are entitled to have access (with or without payment).
5. Prohibit people from taking dogs onto, or allow their dogs to remain on the designated land to which the public are entitled or permitted to have access with or without payment within the Borough of Southend-on-Sea. The designated land and scope of the Order is as follows:
 - a) Exclusion Zones – All Year
Children's Play Areas – All separate children's play areas within public parks in the Borough of Southend on Sea.
Sports Areas
Belfairs Park Tennis Courts, Bonchurch Park Tennis Courts, Chalkwell Park Tennis courts
Cavendish Park Tennis and Basketball Courts, Priory Park Tennis Courts, Southchurch Park Tennis Courts, Shoebury Park Tennis Courts, Warner's Park – All-weather Pitch, Milton Road Gardens Tennis Courts, Cluny Square – 5 a side pitch
 - b) Exclusion Zones – Part Year (1st May to 30th September)

All beaches in the Borough of Southend on Sea extending out to the mean low water mark.

Dated 27th July 2009
Andrew Lewis
Corporate Director Enterprise, Tourism and the Environment

A copy of the full Orders may be seen at the Civic Centre, Victoria Avenue, Southend-on-Sea between 9.00a.m and 5.00p.m on weekdays, Leigh Town Council, Public Libraries and Internet at southend.gov.uk.

Notes