

FOCUS ON MILE END

Edited by Phil Coleman

Keeping you informed of what is happening in Mile End

WINTER 2016



Northern Gateway Moving Forward

→ NEW IMAX CINEMA → RESTAURANTS → CLIMBING WALL → WIND TUNNEL

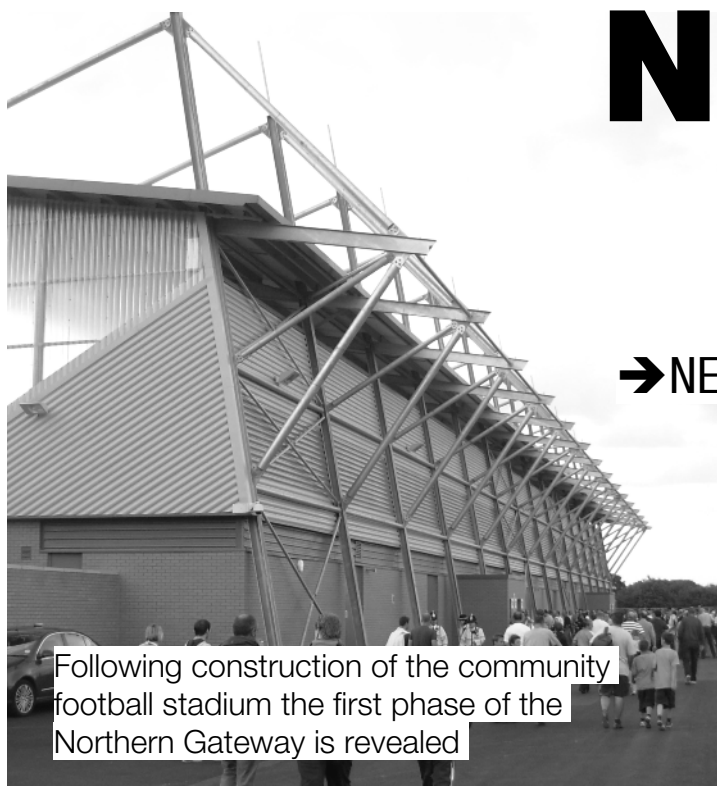
Work is progressing on the Northern Gateway facilities and plans are continuing to emerge.

The proposal includes a new IMAX and 4G cinema, which, if it is approved, will be run by Cineworld. The proposals also include restaurants and various leisure facilities such as a climbing wall and a wind tunnel to replicate sky diving. The area will also include a hotel,

multi story car park and covered cycle parking facilities.

Cllr Dominic Graham said "This is an exciting project and one we believe will enhance the lives of Mile End residents, as well as making this a real regional destination to benefit all residents in Colchester."

Further information is available at www.northerngatewayleisure.co.uk



Following construction of the community football stadium the first phase of the Northern Gateway is revealed

NEW WARD
Boundary for
Mile End - a move
for Braiswick
residents

On 5th May 2016 all councillors in Colchester will be up for election and the amount of councillors will be reduced from 60 to 51. There will still be 3 councillors representing Mile End residents, but the area will change slightly as the boundaries are redrawn. Braiswick (top end of Bergholt Road) will sadly move out

of Mile End as will all housing from the Water Tower on Mill Road to the end of Severalls Lane.

Mile End will, of course, continue to grow with the completion of Northfields, Severalls Phase 1 and 2 and also the Chesterwell development.

At the elections on 5th May this year you will have 3 votes and we will continue to work hard to gain your support for the Mile End team of Martin Goss, Dominic Graham and Phil Coleman.



SEVERALLS DEVELOPMENT - PHASE 2

More info:
www.milendlibdems.org/Severalls

Your Mile End Team met with the Phase 2 developers recently to look at the plans for the Severalls Development (just over 730 new homes). We have spent time sending extensive feedback on the plans so the developers are clear what is expected as well as liaising with residents. This feedback can be seen on the Colchester Council website.

The developers for Phase 2 will be Taylor Wimpey, Bloor Homes and Bellway. The planning application will likely be going to the Planning Committee in March and, if approved, work will commence on the site later this year.



CHESTERWELL - UPDATE

Estimated 15 years to build
1,600 homes

Work has progressed on the building of the first 8 houses on the Mersea Homes Chesterwell Development. We have been liaising closely with existing residents over any questions or concerns they have regarding the development and getting quick answers for them.

The initial A134 diversion changes are currently underway and these should be completed and open by April 2016.



TURNER RISE RETAIL PARK - LATEST

Special security measures will be added

Work has progressed on the first new retail pods which are to open by March 2016 for Costa Coffee and Subway.

The Retail park is also due to build two more new retail outlets and will completely change the external facilities of the overall park with new planting, new architecture, new bins and improvements to the car park.

A lockable barrier will shortly be put in along with number plate recognition to help keep any late night disturbances at bay. The Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) has also been extended for a further 12 months to enable the Police to take action.

BRAISWICK PRIMARY SCHOOL UPDATE

The school has now been handed across to the Academy and pupils have successfully started using the school building. More pupils have been admitted to the school from January and the pupil roll is now growing.

The school held a successful open evening on 4th January which was well attended by many local residents and feedback was excellent.

The only work that is left on the school is external planting along Apprentice Drive and also within the school boundary, which we are told will be completed by the end of January. We expect the path to/from Apprentice Drive will be completed in February.

Phil Coleman said: "Being a school teacher myself I made sure I visited the school on the open evening so I could see the facilities. It was extremely impressive and a very positive learning environment for the pupils.

"Staff were professional and enthusiastic. I am pleased to see this will definitely be a very community minded school."



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WHERE'S OUR BROADBAND?

We have been doing a lot of work in the background with BT Open Reach and other providers such as County Broadband to look at ways of improving fibre broadband connectivity in Mile End and more widely Colchester.

The biggest issue we have found is new developments are being built with no fibre broadband facilities or limited capacity. We have been looking at possible solutions for the Rosewood

Development (aka Severalls Phase 1), increasing capacity on New Braiswick Park and the Northfields Development and also ensuring all future developments (such as Chesterwell and Severalls Phase 2) have fibre broadband capability from the start of the build. We believe it is much easier to install fibre broadband capability at the beginning of the project rather than trying to add it later.

Cllr Martin Goss said "I am quite shocked by what I found when I started to dig into this issue, given the Government's aspiration to enable most properties to have superfast broadband by 2020, there seems to be a severe gulf between aspiration and reality."

Martin Goss has been appointed as the Mile End Superfast Broadband champion.

£4,000 Help us choose...

YOUR MONEY - YOUR CHOICE

- ✓ New play equipment for a playground
- ✓ Sports equipment for local children
- ✓ Bat and bird boxes for the Highwoods Country Park
- ✓ Tree planting
- ✓ Astroturf for pre-school group
- ✓ Donate money to Myland Community Council to support their community projects

MAKE YOUR CHOICE AT:

www.mileendlibdems.org/vote

A huge thanks for the massive feedback from residents on project ideas for the £4,000 community funding that Cllr Martin Goss and Cllr Dominic Graham have to spend in Mile End. The suggestions so far are listed on the left.

We have now put the poll online so please do vote for your favourite Mile End project and help select the winner.

If you don't have online access or you are not on our Mile End email list, please contact one of the team with your preferred option.

If any funding is left over from the overall winner, it will be split between the top 3 project ideas until the funding is exhausted.

Clean for the Queen

We have been working with Asda to come up with a Clean for the Queen event in Mile End. March 5th has been suggested as the date we aim to make Mile End even more sparkling!

Currently we are proposing to clean the North Station, Northern Approaches, Bergholt Road, Turner Rise and Turner Road areas as these are close to the store and are also areas where litter does accumulate.

We are happy to go further afield with more volunteers.

We would very much like to involve local residents so if you can spare some time on March 5th, please let us know.



New Bus Routes 63 and 77

The 63 service will continue to run to Bergholt Road and Braiswick Park until April 2016 when the service will change and go to Leisure World instead. Essex County Council are subsidising a new bus service which started on 21st December 2015. This is the 77 service which runs 5 times a day however is not particularly frequent. The timetable has been designed to coincide with the school drop off and pick up times.

A link to the timetable is here:
www.mileendlibdems.org/bustimetable

Cllr Martin Goss said "It does seem ludicrous to subsidise two bus services until April running almost simultaneously funded by the taxpayer."

Mill Road Traffic Calming

The Mile End Team held a meeting in December 2015 with Essex County Council to chase up a number of highways projects for our area.

Traffic calming measures on Mill Road were discussed and we have asked they Essex County Council to push forwards with the necessary speed and traffic volume surveys so we can see for certain the difference the new NAR 3 road has made, if any.

We await an update from ECC on their plans to move this forwards.

Battle for our roads

We continue to report to Essex County Council to highlight the disgraceful state of Bergholt Road, Turner Road, Three Crowns Road and Kingswood Road, which arguably have the worst road or pavement surfaces in the whole of Mile End.

It does appear that some remedial works are planned for Bergholt Road, but no timescales are yet forthcoming from Essex County Council. We will update you when we have more information.

Safety sign for Boxted Road

There is now a second 30 MPH Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) installed in Boxted Road adjacent to the junction of Whitebeam Close. We have been pushing Essex County Council for some years to get this installed. They did originally put the sign around the wrong way but this has now be rectified.

Anne Turrell said "I am pleased this has finally been delivered after many years of pushing for it."

Mile End Road Cycle Lane Update

Detailed plans of the proposed Mile End Road Cycle Lane are yet to emerge from Essex County Council.

We are told changes are being made following the recent public consultation, but await further information. The current markings on Mile End Road pavements we are told are down to BT marking up for some utility works. The proposed £750,000 budget has been awarded from a grant via Central Government after ECC applied for it.

Phil Coleman said: "As a keen cyclist and Mile End Road resident I welcome any initiative which improves cycling facilities. However, in Mile End we have much higher priorities such as safe cycling for children on Mill Road or Turner Road. This project is not a high priority and I have concerns the plans will actually make cycling less safe on Mile End Road."

Your Liberal Democrat Team are proud to represent Mile End

If you see anything that needs attention, please let us know.



New road sign for Wallace Road and Defoe Crescent

Cllr Dominic Graham ordered a new road sign for Wallace Road after somebody recently drove into it which bent it out of shape. The Defoe Crescent sign was also knocked over, so Cllr Martin Goss arranged for this to be repaired as soon as it was spotted.



Rugby Club dogs mess

Despite our efforts through patrols, new signage and newspaper coverage, dogs mess continues to be left on the rugby club pitches on Mill Road. As a result the Club has requested an Order to ban all dogs from the pitches and green area. A decision, following the public consultation, will be made once this has closed.

NORTHFIELDS

We have continued to work towards a solution on behalf of residents of Northfields, including meeting with the Regional Managing Director of Linden Homes as well as with Trinity Estates.

Issues include Satellite system issues, parking problems, drainage issues, road completion and adoption, residential parking scheme, missing or misspelt road signs, green and bubbling rendering, open space completion and adoption, slow broadband and management company issues.