



Chairman  
Cllr Doreen Anderson

### National Pet Month Best Local Authority Award

The Town Council was announced the winner of the best local authority event after being chosen by the National Pet Month charity trustees. National Pet Month 2013 ran from 01 April – 06 May. Teaming up with the PDSA and Castle Point Borough Council, four events were held over the National Pet Month period which gave local dog owners the opportunity for free health checks and a dog micro chipping service which raised funds for the local PDSA branch and supported the Town Council's 'Responsible Dog Owner' awareness campaign.



# Canvey Island Town Council Annual Report - 2013/14

## Chairman's Report

It has been a privilege to represent the Town Council for the year 2013/14 and I am pleased to say that the council has achieved many things this year including two prestigious awards for all of its efforts, the EALC highly sought after Community Engagement Award and the Best Local Authority Award to encourage responsible dog ownership during National Pet Month. The Council arranged a number of educational events including pond dipping at Canvey Lake with children from Canvey Junior School, National Poop Scoop Day and two free micro-chipping events for dogs, both in association with the Dogs Trust, which due to its popularity will be coming back to Canvey Island next month offering more free micro-chipping. The Port of London Authority were invited to the seafront bringing their educational Riverside trailer and the Environment Agency joined the Community Warden and a local Police Community Support Officer in patrolling Canvey Lake checking for Fishing Licences. I am proud to say that the council continues to work very hard to bring its open spaces up to standard including the work that has been completed at Canvey Lake, Tewkes Creek and also the seafront gardens. The Events for 2013/14 have been hugely successful with the Wildlife Event seeing more visitors this year than ever before even with the previous days' heavy rain trying to hamper the Councils efforts. The Armed Forces Day was again very successful attracting huge numbers of visitors from in and around Canvey Island. Thanks must be given to the Ministry of Defence who donated £2,000 in grant funding

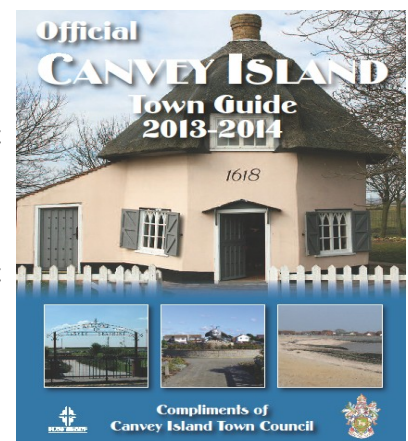
towards the cost of the day and of course to all the participants and volunteers who attended. The Garden Trail proved very popular again this year as there were even more entrants who all excelled themselves with their wonderful garden displays. The day was so successful that the proceeds of the event raised £1,273.55, which was donated to the Canvey Community Archive as the Council's chosen charity for 2013/14. The Christmas event went extremely well attracting the most visitors that we had ever seen to the Town Centre. This year the Town Council provided additional festive lighting in the town centre, with the trees on the corner of Foksville Road and Furtherwick Road being lit up for the first time and the addition of multi-coloured lighting to the 20ft Christmas tree situated outside of Canvey Library. Special thanks go to Pinnacle who donated the two 20ft trees for the Town Centre. The flower tower planter at Jones corner was beautifully decorated with lighting to make it look like a Christmas tree and the mini wall mounted trees on the buildings really brightened up the area. The Christmas shop front competition proved popular again and judging was difficult but the winner for 2013 was Canvey Supply Company's High Street store, who received £100 in vouchers, which was kindly donated by the Knightswick Centre.

The Council again managed all of its achievements in 2013/14 without raising its precept and I would like to thank the Council staff as in my opinion it could not have achieved any of this without their help and hard work.

### Community Engagement Award



Canvey Island Town Council won a Community Engagement Award which was presented to the Chairman, Cllr Doreen Anderson with a certificate and award by the Essex Association of Local Councils (EALC) at their official Awards Ceremony. The Award was in recognition of the achievements which involve the community on Canvey Island.



## Canvey Lake—phase 1 & 2 complete

The second phase of the remedial works to enhance Canvey Lake was completed in November 2013. Working together with the Environment Agency, the Town Council were able to carry out the reed cutting works, channel creation works defining the bank edge and the water, increased reed removal works in the area adjacent the Denham Road bridge to open up this body of water to make it more amenable for fishermen, removal of redundant bank stabilisation posts and signage from the lake and additional

treatments to inhibit growth of pennywort and other invasive species. The total anticipated cost to complete the two year project was in the region of £133,709.00, however, the actual cost of these works was £124,008.44. Working closely with the Environment Agency on this mutually beneficial project has enabled the Town Council to make these considerable cost savings, which will be utilised toward the continued enhancement of this site.



Free Micro Chipping events and Pet Checks held in partnership with the PDSA and Dogs Trust

## Wildflower Meadow

The Town Council in partnership with Castle Point Borough Council created a wildflower meadow on the site adjacent the Dutch ford at Tewkes Creek. The meadow will enhance this wildlife haven and encourage bees, butterflies and other insect and wildlife to Tewkes Creek. The project was initiated through the Environment and Open Spaces Committees Four Year Plan and support has been provided by the Town Council's Environment and Conservation Forum. The project started in Autumn 2013 where the ground

was prepared and wildflower seeds laid by a local contractor and once established will be maintained by the Town Council. In commemoration of the hundredth anniversary of the First World War in 2014, the Town Council will also be sowing Flanders Poppy seeds through the meadow.



## Wildlife Event

The Town Council works in partnership with the RSPB to hold its annual Wildlife Day at West Canvey Marsh, Canvey Road, Canvey Island. The event is open between 11am to 4pm and provides walks and talk trails around the marsh to include some of the fascinating insects, wild plants and birds that can be found on Canvey Island. There was a free entry photography competition with the theme of 'Wildlife of Canvey Island'. The competition was divided into three categories,

under 12 years old, 12-18 years old and over 18 years old with prizes for each of the categories. Other activities on the day included pond dipping and bug hunting for the children and many local wildlife, conservation and arts and craft groups stalls promoting what they do. The event was free entry including free face painting.



## 2 New Litter & 2 New Dog Bins installed at Canvey Lake





## Armed Forces Day

Over one thousand people attended the Canvey Island Armed Forces Day celebrations and it was the Town Council's fifth annual event. A parade of veteran and current armed forces, dignitaries and air, army, sea cadets and scouts marched through the town centre followed by a thanksgiving service at the Paddocks War Memorial with a wartime exhibition of photographs and memorabilia on display in Hall 2 at the Paddocks. Rebecca Harris MP and Castle Point Borough's Mayor Maryse Iles were among

the dignitaries who attended the event. It was a great day, the weather was kind and there was a great turnout from the public with their flags, and the bunting displays made the town look very colourful. A reception was held at the War Memorial Hall with refreshments for invited guests including veterans, current armed forces and dignitaries and William Read School and Talents Stage School provided entertainment. Photos attached kindly taken by Kim Skedged.



## Vince Heatherson Plaque

A plaque was erected in the Labworth Memorial Gardens in memory of Vincent Heatherson. Vince was one of the first campaigners of the Canvey Island 1953 Flood Victim Memorial garden situated within the Labworth Gardens and was also one of the Chairman of the Canvey 2000 seafront development which was responsible for the creation of the gardens themselves. The Town Council was asked whether Vincent's efforts could be recognised and agreed to purchase and erect a plaque in memory of Vincent with a short service that took place within the gardens on the 29<sup>th</sup> March 2014 at 1pm conducted by Rev David Tudor.



## Gardens Trail

The Garden Trail raised £1,273.55 to help Canvey Community Archive with the from the sale of event programmes, refreshments, jams, and plants at the garden locations, Sainsbury's, Nisa Local and Garden World and the help of the 12 gardens that took part. The money raised will help the group who gather memories as well as photographs and other documents relating the history of the island and

present this information through a website, [www.canveyisland.org](http://www.canveyisland.org). The Garden Trail was sponsored by Nisa Local & Canvey Village Post Office, Jones Corner, Canvey Island.



## Christmas Event

Over a thousand people attended the sixth annual Christmas Event and Lights Switch On in Canvey Island's town centre on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2013. The event started at 12 noon with Christmas gift, craft, continental and charity goods stalls, a fun fair and real reindeers on display as part of the Christmas market. The staged entertainment started later after 1pm which was hosted by Martin and Su from Heart Essex

Radio's Breakfast Show. There were performances from a range of local groups, individuals and schools including E.N.V (Reece Pullinger), Luke Britnell, Lauren O'Mahony, Chantelle Pasquale, Canvey Skills Campus dance students, RCCG Gospel Choir, Talents Stage School, Canvey Community Choir, Filthy Gorgeous, William Read School Choir, Northwick Park School Choir and Sandi Durant. Canvey

Island Library entertained the children with stories, songs and activities with the help of Rudolph and Snowman. Santa arrived later in the afternoon on his sleigh posing for photographs with the children and the reindeer. Hot chocolate and mince pies were handed out at Canvey Island Library before the Christmas lights were switched at 5pm. The Town Council provided the two 20ft lit Christmas trees and lighting on display on many of the businesses in the town centre and Jones Corner.





## THE COUNCIL AND ITS COMMITTEE SYSTEM

The Town Council resolved to establish a system for carrying out its business through committees. The committees will normally meet in turn at three weekly intervals throughout the Council year to assist in progressing the Council's business. The Planning and Personnel committees will meet on an ad hoc basis when required.

Planning Committee meetings will normally start at 7.00pm. All other Committee meetings and Council meetings will commence at 7.30pm. All scheduled meetings take place on a Monday unless otherwise stated.

The Town Council holds an Annual Town Meeting between 1<sup>st</sup> March and the 1<sup>st</sup> June which is a forum for the public to come along and question members on any matters relating to the work of the Town Council.

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### Opening Hours

Monday—Closed  
Tuesday—9.30am to 12pm  
Wednesday—12.30pm to 2.30pm  
Thursday—9.30am to 12pm  
Friday—Closed



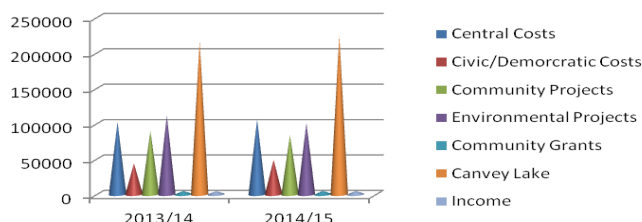
## Policy & Finance

The Policy & Finance committee is responsible for reviewing all Council policies and overseeing the financial administration of the Council. It monitors the Council's income and expenditure against budgets, makes recommendations for action to the Council and provides financial support to local groups through the Grant Scheme. The committee co-ordinates the budgetary process and recommends a precept to cover its annual expenses for approval by the Council at a meeting in December/January each year.

In 2014/15 the Council will raise a precept of £226,236 with the addition of a Council Tax Grant of £26,980. This represents a reduction of £14,219 from 2013/14 in order to allow a 0% increase in the annual charge.

Any additional funds required will be raised from grants and allotment rents.

### Budget Provision 2014/15



### Grants awarded in 2013/14:

St Anne's Church	£500.00
Breath Easy Group	£500.00
Canvey Island Carnival Association	£500.00
OAP No.2 Club	£500.00
Canvey Community Archive	£500.00
William Read Primary School	£500.00
Winter Gardens Baptist Church	£500.00
Cast & Crew Theatre Workshop	£500.00
CP Sports Club for the Disabled	£500.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>£4,500.00</b>

### Grants Received in 2013/14

Veolia North Thames Trust	£13,123
Community Initiative Fund	£4,300
MOD	£2,000
Essex Heritage Fund	£5,000
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>£24,423</b>

## COUNCILLOR CONTACT DETAILS

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