

BILLERICAY OBSERVER

Tuesday August 1st, 1961.

Number 92.



1 1/2D

© "Billericay Observer".

"The only newspaper printed and published in Billericay".

COUNCIL DECIDE AGAINST "PUBLIC QUESTION TIME" BUT FORUM OF COUNCILLORS WILL TOUR DISTRICT

A Labour motion asking for quarter of a hour to be set aside at Council Meetings for the public to ask questions of local Councillors, and an Independent amendment proposing that this suggestion be tried for three Council Meetings, were both defeated at last Thursday's Council Meeting, but the Conservatives promised that an Open Forum of Councillors would tour the Urban District to discuss matters of interest with the ratepayers.

Introducing the motion, Cllr. A.T. Dove, Leader of the Opposition, said that he had tried to keep the motion as simple as possible, and he hoped that it would not be turned down, as it would give the ratepayers a chance to discuss items on the Council agenda.

Cllr. Morley (Con.) said that he doubted whether the discussion would be completed in fifteen minutes. Supporting this Cllr. Phelps (Vice-Chairman) said that he was yet to meet a ratepayer who he could understand in fifteen minutes. In the past the Press had had the fifteen minute recess to interview Committee Chairman, and it would be wrong to break down the Press's time. The public could see their Councillor at any time, and it was far better for them to see their Councillor as and when they wanted to. The proposed system was not the way a Councillor worked.

Commented Cllr. Weston (Con.), "We are the public's servants and we don't ask them to come here." Cllr. Pope (Con.) said that previously he had always answered any question of a member of the public at a Council Meeting.

Cllr. Hollands (Lab.) said that the motion was in line with the Minister's idea to interest people in local government. Some Councillors had got it round their neck a little. Councillors would still answer phone calls and see people in the same way.

Cllr. Blake (Lab.) said that the real crux of the matter was that discussions would only take place on the agenda, and therefore Councillors would not be bombarded with people asking questions.

Cllr. Wilkins (Ind.) said that he did not know whether the idea was practical or not. However, it was Public Relations, and some good could come of it. Therefore he moved an amendment suggesting that the idea be tried for a trial period of three Council Meetings. His amendment was seconded by Cllr. Saunders (Lab.)

Cllr. Pembroke (Con.) said that there would be some sense in the idea if a little longer was allowed.

Cllr. Quirk (Con.) said that all Councillors agreed that it was a good thing to meet the public. It was proposed to hold an Open Forum, taken district by district, when residents would submit questions in writing. The Forum would be more personal and parochial.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2.

Page 1.

PUBLIC RELATIONS DEBATE.

From Page 1.

Cllr. Mrs. C. J. Gadson, Chairman, said that she felt that she was bound to speak on the motion, as it referred to her statement in her annual policy statement that "the Council will make every attempt to maintain good public relations and that an opportunity will be given for the public to meet the Council for a frank and friendly discussion". She said that every Councillor tried to keep up good relations with the public. They gave up their time, and paid their telephone bills. However, there was over stress on the Council keeping good relations with the public, for there was an onus on the ratepayers as well. Those who supported the motion, would thus declare that they did not want an Open Forum.

The motion, which asked for fifteen minutes to be set aside at Council Meetings for the public to discuss items on the agenda with Councillors without prejudice to the Press right to do so, was defeated by 18 votes to 9. The amendment that the proposal be tried for three Council meetings was defeated by 17 votes to 10.

PART OF CHAPEL STREET TO BE ONE-WAY - ONLY SOLUTION TO BUS PROBLEM.

Further discussion has taken place between Basildon Council, the Police and the Eastern National Bus Company, on the question of the turning of buses in the High Street. The only solution acceptable to the Bus Company, and the one most favoured by the Police, is for the 34 and 34a services to be routed through Chapel Street from the Church, returning to the Church via Sun Street and High Street. This involves the introduction of one-way traffic working in Chapel Street between High Street and Hillside Road, "No Waiting" between the Ritz Cinema and the High Street, and parking on one side only for the rest of Chapel Street. The Council have decided to make Orders on these three subjects. The Orders will be advertised so that interested persons may object if they feel aggrieved by the proposals.

At a future meeting of the Works Committee preliminary consideration will be given to making "No Waiting" orders in the High St. itself. If the Council were to contemplate making "No Waiting" orders in the High Street, all interested parties would be consulted.

INDEPENDENT ASKS THREE QUESTIONS.

Billericay's Independent Residents' Association Councillor, Mr. H. E. Wilkins, asked three questions at last Thursday's Council Meeting. The first on Mountnessing Road Sewage Disposal Works read; "In the interest of good public relations and in view of the number of complaints and the petition from ratepayers, received by the Council, can the Chairman state when the meeting between the Council and the complainants will take place". (Some months ago residents in Mountnessing Road, supported by Buttsbury Residents' Assn. complained about the smell from the Sewage Works).

In reply Cllr. Mrs. C. J. Gadson said that the Engineer & Surveyor had replied to all complaints. Further investigations were being made on the subject, and a report would be presented to the Works Committee, when action would be taken to deal with the complaints. It was thought that the difficulties were only temporary ones. An opportunity would be given later in the year for the residents to meet the Council.

On flooding and Surface Water Drainage Cllr. Wilkins asked; "Will the Chairman indicate what remedial steps have been taken to improve surface water road culverts where over-flowing and damage to property was caused during the heavy rains on the night 4/5th May, 1961".

Replying Cllr. Mrs. C. J. Gadson said that she thought that the question referred to Perry Street, Brightside, and the Sunnymede and Outwood Common Estates. It had been found that culverts were blocked by debris, and a regular inspection of watercourses was now proposed. An alteration in the grills was being considered. Close liaison was being maintained with the Walthamstow Borough Council regarding Outwood Common Estate. Mrs. Gadson referred to the fact that enlargement of watercourses would be dealt with in a major scheme, for which tenders would shortly be invited. Already the watercourse in Queens Park had been enlarged.

Cllr. Wilkins's third question was on the future development of Billericay and read; "Mindful that the present Town Map forecast of total population up to 1971 has almost been reached, will the Chairman indicate the Council's policy for future development when the new Town Map proposals are discussed, bearing in mind the overcrowding in schools,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3.

PLANNING CHAIRMAN DOES NOT AGREE THAT DEVELOPMENT IS TOO RAPID.

Continued from Page 2.

the overcrowding on the railway service to London, the substantial capital cost of new sewage works and surface water drainage schemes, and the general failure of the Public Supply Authorities to give and maintain adequate service, because of the too rapid town expansion in the past few years".

Replying to the question Cllr. Quirk, Chairman of the Development & Planning Committee said that when the new Town Map was being prepared all relevant factors would be considered. Additional building land would be made available where practicable. The Council was in a very strong position to influence the County Council on all matters relating to the Town Map. The Council did not accept that there had been a general failure on the part of the Public Supply Authorities, or that the expansion was too rapid.

ROAD SAFETY CHAIRMAN SAYS "WE SHOULD USE PLAIN WORDS WITH COUNCIL".

Speaking at Friday's meeting of Basildon Urban District Road Safety Committee, the Chairman, Cllr. H.G. Pembroke said; "It's about time we started using plain words to the Council". Referring to a proposal of the Committee that reflector boards be placed on the traffic lights in Sun Street, which had been turned down by the Council Cllr. Pembroke said; "We are the Road Safety Committee and we wouldn't suggest a road safety hazard". It was agreed to contact the Council again on the subject.

"WHOLESALE ALTERATIONS" IN TRAIN TIME TABLES?

Speaking at last Thursday's Council Meeting, Cllr. J.J.A. Tesoirere said; "We are rapidly approaching the stage when there is to be a 'wholesale alteration' in bus and train time tables, when the bus and train services are revised in September. We must get our Transport Committee (the idea of a Transport Committee was originally Cllr. Tesoirere's) before the changes in the timetables take place.

Cllr. Mrs. C.J. Gadson, Chairman, said that the formation of the Committee was being treated with as much urgency as possible, and it was impossible to speed up its formation further.

SCHOOL FOOTPATH "VITALLY NECESSARY".

Referring to Basildon Council's refusal to construct a footpath at present from Buttsbury School to Orchard Avenue in Perry Street at present at last Friday's Road Safety Committee meeting, Mr. V. Ireland, (representing Billericay Residents' Assn.) said that the provision of the footpath was "vitally necessary". Mr. Ireland went on; "Perry Street is a very busy road, and a lot more houses are being built along it and off it. There is quite a small estate being constructed near the School. We can't wait several years for this footpath. It is not only for the safety of the children but for the safety of everybody. Perry Street is a very dangerous road and something must be done".

Cllr. Wilkins said that while there were engineering difficulties the footpath should be constructed as soon as possible. The school was the only one in the area, and a recent survey had revealed that 150 children went from the school along Perry Street towards Orchard Avenue. The Orchard Avenue junction was also very dangerous.

A police representative stated that although there was a Crossing Patrol at the School it could not cater for the children going to the north, as they had no path to cross over to. As a result the patrol was only 50% efficient.

It was decided to write to the Council again on the subject. The Council have refused to provide the footpath until the surface water drainage scheme for the area is completed.

BUS STOP MAY BE MOVED.

Basildon Council have received a petition from residents of Sun Street requesting the re-siting of the bus stop to obviate obstruction of the footway and nuisance caused to occupiers of nearby premises. Subject to the approval of the Eastern National Bus Company, this bus stop will be re-sited in Southend Road to the south of the Chapel Street junction providing approval is forthcoming from Essex County Council to the construction of a layby at the new stopping place. The erection of a bus shelter at this stopping place will be considered by the Council at a later date. The Council have decided to erect a bus shelter at the junction of Jacksons Lane and Thynne Road, Sunnymede, Billericay.

EDITORIAL.

Editor:- Wynford P. Grant.

Editorial Offices:-

"Billericay Observer",
143, Perry Street,
Billericay,
Essex.

Phone:- Billericay 1927.

Because of the increases in Purchase Tax imposed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to deal with the economic situation, and the increases in charges for certain postal and telephone services introduced by the Postmaster-General, it has been found necessary to increase slightly the charges for advertising in the "Observer", in order to prevent a loss being incurred. All advertisers will be informed of these changes, and details can be obtained from the Editor. Classified Adverts remain at 6d for thirty words, although only another twenty words can be obtained for a further 3d. Despite these increases (and they are very small) the "Billericay Observer" still offers the best value for money in the field of advertising in Billericay - for example a 1" single column advert costs only 1/6d to reach a readership of nearly 2,000.

Readers are reminded that there will be no issue on August 15th - Number 93 will be published on August 29th, and will include all the news that occurs in the next month.

Young readers are reminded that they can enter the "Observer" Sketching Competition, and possibly win one of the 12 half-guinea prizes offered for the most original and interesting sketches. Entry Forms may be obtained from the Editor.

The "Billericay In The Past" article on Page 10 of this issue is the last in the present series. Plans are now being considered for an entirely new series on Billericay history.

----- The Editor.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

Forthcoming Events In Billericay.

Saturday August 26th:- Southend Carnival Procession.

"Elizabethan Essex" Exhibition at Ingatestone Hall until October 7th. Open Tuesdays to Saturdays and on August Bank Holiday. Ingatestone Hall is near Ingatestone Station and about $\frac{1}{2}$ -a-mile from the Shenfield-Chelmsford bus route.

**SPIRELLA
RESIDENT CORSETIERE**

MRS. W. LENNON

"Danwyn", Beaufort Road, Billericay.

Phone Billericay 1827.

MADE-TO-MEASURE FASHION FOUNDATIONS
AND SWIMSUITS.

My advice on your corsetry problems is
always available without obligation.

ORDER YOUR CYRIL LORD CARPET AND RUGS
From

MR. A. BAKER, 69, KNIGHTBRIDGE WALK.
(Off Perry St.)

PHONE BILLERICAY 1634.

CALL, WRITE, OR PHONE.

Will fit if required.

LIVE WELL!

1st YEAR HENS WILL ROAST OR BOIL!

ONLY 2/2d per lb.

CHEAPER THAN SAUSAGES!

PREPARED FOR THE OVEN FREE!

Also ---- RABBITS FOR PETS

---- NEW LAID EGGS

Apply:- "MOSS BANK", WOODSIDE ROAD,
PERRY STREET, BILLERICAY.
(Between Queens Park and School).

G O O D S P E E D S.

1, CHAPEL STREET.
(Opposite War Memorial).

Established 35 years.

EXPERT FISH FRYER.

SMOKED HADDOCK A SPECIALITY.

FROZEN FOODS STOCKED.

OPEN ON FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS
UNTIL 9.0 p.m.

Phone Billericay 280.

CHRIST CHURCH, PERRY STREET.

Services:- 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays,
Family Matins, 9.30 a.m. 2nd and
4th Sundays, Holy Communion, 9.30 a.m.

Young Wives Fellowship:- There are no
meetings in August. Next meeting is
on September 5th, and from that date
onwards all meetings will be held in
the evening.

.....

ADVERTISEMENT RATES from the Editor.

FOR THE OLD FOLK

Billericay O.A.P. - 19th July Meeting.

There was an excellent attendance. The Chairman said that the sick list was not quite such a long one - Mr. Ramage was getting on slowly; Mrs. Gray was about the same; Mrs. Parkin was still attending hospital; Mrs. Gilbert and Mr. Shaw were away sick. All sick members were wished a speedy recovery. Mrs. Johnson was welcomed back after absence through illness. Birthday honours were accorded Mrs. Pegg and Mrs. Graham. The Secretary stated that the outing to Brighton was a great success, and it appeared that all who went had thoroughly enjoyed it, as it had turned out to be a nice day. He asked members to put down their names for the outing to Felixstowe on August 14th as soon as possible. The Secretary reminded all members that there was a Suggestions Box, any complaint or suggestion put in the box would be put before the Committee for discussion. Mr. Boulton's Concert Party from Thorpe Bay entertained.

Billericay O.A.P. - 26th July Meeting.

93 were present. The report on sick members was as follows:- Mr. Ramage was improving; Mr. Pegg was out of hospital; Mrs. Gray was about the same; Mr. Youngman was very ill; Mr. Shaw was also very ill; Mrs. Shiner had had an operation; Mrs. Parkin was not too well, and Mrs. Newell was very ill.

Buttsbury Monday Club.

On July 17th plans were discussed for a proposed outing to Felixstowe on September 12th. On July 24th an entertainment was held. Mr. Williams and Mrs. Harley performed sketches, songs were performed by Mrs. Butcher, Mrs. Lamb, and Mrs. Johnson, to the accompaniment of Mrs. Miniham on the piano, and recitations were given by Mrs. Wilson. A perfect evening ended with Community Singing, with Mrs. Kidmarsh at the piano. 30 attended.

The Sunnymede & Outwood Common Friday Club will not meet during the August School Holidays, as they are not allowed the use of Meadow Way School during this period.

THERE IS STILL TIME TO BOOK YOUR SUMMER CRUISE OR HOLIDAY ABROAD
Write or telephone NOW to:-

FRED HUNTER LIMITED

87, Bishopgate,
London, E.C.2.

AVENUE 5524
or BILLERICAY 1457

WILLIAM J. MASH C.M.B.H.I. HOROLOGIST

ESTABLISHED 1920.

CONTRACTOR TO ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL AND VARIOUS MUNICIPAL AUTHORITIES.
ALSO HOSPITALS.

REPAIRS TO WATCHES AND CLOCKS.

"Wychfield", First Avenue, Frithwood Lane, Billericay.
Phone Billericay 1587.

THE "OBSERVER" CINEMA GUIDE.

Ritz Cinema, Chapel St., Billericay.

Monday July 31st:- "NEVER ON SUNDAY" (X). (3 Days).

Thursday August 3rd:- (3 Days), Deborah Kerr, Robert Mitchum in "THE SUNDOWNERS" (U). Also "DEADLOCK" (U).

Sunday August 6th:- "CANYON CROSSROADS" (U) and "CAPTAIN SCARLET" (U).

Monday August 7th:- (3 Days) Walt Disney's "POLLYANNA" (U).

Thursday August 10th:- (3 Days) Tony Hancock in "THE REBEL" (U). Also "THE ROYAL TOUR OF INDIA" (U) in technicolour.

Sunday August 13th:- "FOREIGN INTRIGUE" (A).

ANIMAL FLAG WEEK.

Mrs. Hardwicke, who with the aid of collectors, run Animal Flag Week in the area from July 9th to 15th states that the sum of £33-10-2d was gathered for the P.D.S.A. Animal Fund.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTS.

Hairdressing.

24) Hildegard Ward, Hairdresser, will visit homes for hair trimming of children, O.A.P's, invalids, or ladies who would like to have their hair trimmed in their own home. Moderate charges. Please ring Bil. 228 for appointment.

25) FOR SALE Boys Fawn Tailored Suit Jacket 22", Shoulder 14" Trousers 20" almost new, fit age 8 to 11, £1.- Box 1 or ring 1927

BUS SHELTER FOR PERRY GREEN.

The Billericay Group of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England has received an anonymous gift of £100 towards the cost of providing a bus shelter on the south side of London Road, opposite Perry Green, and they submitted a proposal to the Council Works Committee therefor. The Committee are very anxious to meet the full wishes of the donor and the Group, and will be prepared to provide a substantial shelter of higher cost, if the Group are agreeable.

GAMES BAN.

The Council are concerned about the damage caused to Perry Green and Hillary Mount Green, and have decided to erect notices prohibiting the playing of games on these greens.

COUNCIL GIVE £200 TO ARCHER HALL.

Basildon Council have given their annual grant of £200 to the Parochial Church Council in order to enable urgent repairs and renovations to be carried out on Archer Hall. The Clerk and the Treasurer are to discuss the raising of the necessary finance for the Hall with the Church Council.

NOAK HILL ROAD IMPROVEMENT.

It was reported at last Thursday's Council Meeting that there should be no difficulty in financing Phase I of the Noak Hill Road improvement - between Noak Bridge and Church Street, Great Burstead. The Minister of Transport had stated that this Phase would be included in the current financial year.

MATTHEWS
25/27 HIGH STREET

FOR
A WIDE RANGE OF
CONFECTIONERY
TOBACCO - CIGARETTES

"NEILSONS" ICE CREAM

QUEENS PARK STORES

SPAR GROCERS
111 PERRY STREET

BILLERICAY

DAILY DELIVERY SERVICE

PHONE BILLERICAY 527

OFFERS AVAILABLE FROM 31st JULY to 12th AUGUST.

JAFFACRUSH -----	SAVE 6d	REDUCED FROM 2/3d to 1/9d.
RYVITA -----	SAVE 2d	REDUCED FROM 1/1d to 11d.
M & D RICH TEA FINGERS -----	SAVE 2d	REDUCED FROM 9½d to 7½d.
ROBERTSON'S KING CUT MARMALADE -----	SAVE 2d	REDUCED FROM 9½d to 7½d.
ARMOUR STAR MINCED BEEF LOAF -----	SAVE 3d	REDUCED FROM 1/6d to 1/3d.
SPAR PURE CREAM -- ONLY 10½d		FAMILY SIZE TIN OF ARDMONA BARTLETT
6 PORTION CHEESE -- ONLY 7½d		PEARS -- ONLY 2/4½d.
		FANCY PINK SALMON -- ONLY 2/3d.

OFFERS AVAILABLE FROM JULY 31st to AUGUST 26th.

SOCRA PINK SALMON -----	SAVE 3½d	REDUCED FROM 2/7d to 2/3½d.
VICTORIA FRUIT SALAD -----	SAVE 2d	REDUCED FROM 1/9d to 1/7d.
MALAYAN PINE CUBES -----	SAVE 2d	REDUCED FROM 1/5d to 1/3d.
PLUMROSE CREAM -----	SAVE 1½d	REDUCED FROM 1/- to 10½d.
CHEF TOMATO KETCHUP -----	SAVE 7d	REDUCED FROM 1/10½d to 1/3½d.
CHIVERS JELLIES -----	SAVE 1½d	REDUCED FROM 9½d to 8d.
BRONCO TOILET ROLLS -----	SAVE 4d	REDUCED FROM 1/3d to 11d.
BROBAT BLEACH -----	SAVE 4d	REDUCED FROM 1/4d to 1/-.

Shopping with Spar means savings you know that when you shop at a Spar shop you will receive personal attention allied to prices which are genuinely competitive. So shop with Spar.

AND REMEMBER you can also buy at QUEENS PARK STORES:-

CIGARETTES ----- TOBACCO ----- CONFECTIONERY ----- CHEMISTS SUNDRIES -----
GREENGROCERY ----- FROZEN FOODS etc. etc.

POLICE CALLED TO DEAL WITH PRANKERS.

When noises woke the housekeeper at St. John's School in Stock Road at midnight on Tuesday the police were called. However, when a police patrol car arrived on the scene, it was found that the noises were caused by six boys of the School who were leaving the school the next day, and were having an end-of-term prank. They had whitewashed the playground and cricket pitch with "bam the bomb" slogans, placed wastepaper baskets on the roof, and placed caps and other articles of clothing on the school weather vane.

The next day the culprits were given a lecture by the Headmaster, and made to clear up the mess before they went home.

RESIDENTS PETITION COUNCIL OVER CAR PARKING.

At a recent meeting of Basildon Council's Parks Committee a petition was submitted from 35 residents of Lake Avenue who complained about the inconvenience caused to them by vehicles being parked in, and endeavouring to gain access to Lake Meadows, along Lake Avenue.

It was decided to ask the Clerk to explore the possibilities of making a "No Waiting" Order in respect of Lake Avenue and Cromwell Avenue. It was also decided to modify the notice boards in Lake Avenue. It was decided to contact the Police on the matter, and to consider a report on it at a future meeting of the Committee.

The Committee also approved a supplementary estimate to engage further staff to supervise and report on car parking along Radford Way (the Industrial Estate road) and in the area generally.

PLANS GO AHEAD FOR PRIVATE STREET WORKS.

Basildon Council's Works Committee has instructed the Engineer & Surveyor to prepare estimates, specifications, and provisional apportionments for the making-up of five roads in Billericay as Private Street Works:- Cromwell Avenue, Lake Avenue, St. Agnes Road, Margeth Road, and Highfield Road.

STOP PRESS NEWS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Dear Sir, ---- On visiting Great Burstead Churchyard I was appalled at its disgraceful state. The weeds and grass were approximately 5 to 6 feet tall. What our forefathers would say, I hate to think. To find my parents' grave I had to battle my way through awful growth. Who is responsible for the upkeep of the churchyard?
"BILLERICAY BORN AND BRED" (Name and address supplied).

COUNCIL ASK COUNTY COUNCIL; SHOULD NORSEY WOOD BE A PARK?

Basildon Council have asked the Essex County Council what their views are regarding the preservation of Norsey Woods as a public amenity.

COUNCILLOR WANTS MORE DISCUSSION OF NEW TOWN; LESS OF BILLERICAY AND WICKFORD.

Speaking at last Thursday's Council Meeting, the Leader of the Opposition, Cllr. A.T. Dove referring to the Works Committee report said; "There are only a few items about the New Town on here. I would like in future to see more items about Basildon New Town down for discussion and less about Billericay and Wickford".

Supporting Cllr. Dove Cllr. Morgan said; "The agenda is nothing but Billericay and Wickford".

Replying the Chairman Mrs. C.J. Gadson said; "I hope you are not going to be so parochial as to be only interested in items about the New Town. The people of Billericay have not got just a place in the sun. They have their unmade streets. We attend to necessities.

MORE ENTERED FOR SAFER CYCLING TESTS.

Speaking at last Friday's Road Safety Committee the Road Safety Organiser, Mr. L. Edwards, informed members that there had been a greater number of entries for the Safer Cycling Tests, but there had been a greater shortage of judges. Arrangements had been made to hire classrooms in schools, but in most cases they had not been able to use them, as they were either locked or not permitted to use them.

Cllr. Wilkins said that the lack of co-operation from the education authorities was "deplorable". Next year all local organisations should be circularised and asked to provide judges.

"THE WOOLPACK"

3, CHAPEL STREET, BILLERICAY.
(Rear of Church).

Phone Billericay 1757

for

WOOL (Reserved), SIRDAR, MARY MAXIM'S, CANADIAN WOOLS, LEE TARGET, FAMOUS FLEETKNIT AND POODLE, WENDY'S FASHION FLECKS AND WISP, COPLEY'S ORLON, DREAMSOFT AND CURLAIN, LAINES, DU PINGOIN'S BABY WOOLS, TWEED AND WILLIAM DOUBLE KNITS FROM 1/- per oz. EXTRA THICK FROM 1/3d per oz.

KAYSOR BONDOR STOCKINGS FROM 4/11d.

BERELI BRAS - FOUNDATIONS INCLUDING TEENAGERS.

HABERDASHERY and DRESSMAKERS' ACCESSORIES.

AGENTS FOR PASSAP DUROMATIC KNITTING MACHINES.

(WEEKLY DEMONSTRATIONS)

and VIKING SEWING MACHINES.

J.E. MORRIS WINE MERCHANTS

63, HIGH STREET, BILLERICAY. Tel. 73.

Owing to the Chancellor's surcharge

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN BEER PRICES

All brewers beers increased by

1/2d per 1/2 pint, 1d per pint, 2d per quart.

EXCEPT

ROBERT PORTERS

LIGHT BROWN ALE

which will stay at

10d per 1/2 pint, 1/6d per pint, 2/11d per quart.

Also note our price of

ROBERT PORTERS BOTTLED GUINNESS

THE FAMOUS BULLDOG BRAND.

Cheapest in the district at

1/2 1/2d per 1/2 pint, 2/3d per pint, 4/4d per quart.

"BILLERICAY IN THE PAST".

by the Editor. Series 2. No.9.

It is appropriate in this, the last, article of the present series to comprehensively review the history of Billericay from early times to the present day.

Stone Age and Bronze Age burial mounds exist in Norsey Woods giving evidence that Billericay was peopled from very early times. Many relics of the Iron Age (starting at 500 B.C.) have been found, particularly in the area of Hospital, and it is thought that Billericay was an important hill fort of the Trinovantes.

The Romans crossed the Thames at Tilbury, and Billericay was a natural station on the way to Colchester. It seems that at first they established themselves in Norsey Woods, and later moved to Blunts Walls at Tye Common, where excavations covering four acres existed in the 19th century. Many Roman relics have been found in the area of the Secondary School and in and around the drive of Dr. Rilstone's house in the High Street, and it is thought that this may have been the drive to some other fortification.

The Saxons established themselves at Great Burstead, and this was the chief "town" in the area for some time and although Billericay had regained its importance by 1200, many relics of the superiority of Great Burstead in those far-off days have survived to as late as the 20th century.

In 1253 a Market was established in Billericay, and later two Fairs were established.

In 1381 the Peasants Revolt ended with the "Battle of Billericay" in Norsey Woods, when the peasants were routed. In 1475 Robert Bassett of Billericay was Mayor of London.

In the 14th and 15th centuries the town was a "Haven Town" for the storage of goods, and had a big trade in Wools and Hides. Some local tradesmen were prosperous enough to issue their own "tokens".

Billericay is famous for its connection with "The Mayflower". It is said that the Essex contingent met in The Old Chantry, and the person in charge of supplies, Christopher Martin, was a local man. In the 16th Century "Worthee Wattee", a Billericay man, was martyred at Chelmsford for his religious beliefs.

In the 19th century, with the bypassing of the town by the railways a decline set in, although there were industries such as brickmaking to "fall back on". Only since 1950 has the town regained even some of its former prosperity, with the influx of new residents.

ROUND AND ABOUT

by
"WANDERER".

As one Councillor remarked at the Council Meeting - "We all want good public relations". The question which seems to be in dispute is "how?". A great deal can be achieved through the Press, by regular Press Statements from the Council. However, it is important that the public be given an opportunity to discuss matters with their Councillors. Personally, I think an Open Forum of Councillors is an excellent idea. However, the idea of a "public question time" at Council Meetings is good in principle, though whether it would work out in practice is doubtful. However, it is deplorable that the Conservatives should reject such a suggestion out of hand. It should be given a trial. For one thing it might encourage more people to attend Council Meetings, and thus stimulate a further interest in local government. As for the Conservative statement that anybody who voted for the motion was opposing the Open Forum idea. I say that anybody supporting the motion was declaring that they thought that the question time idea is a good one as well.

I am glad to see that at long last the Council have decided to do something about the turning of buses in the High Street, and Chapel Street. I am also pleased that the Bus Company have decided not to proceed with their childish threat that they would withdrawn the 34 and 34a services if they were not allowed to turn at the Church.

I trust that the Council proceed with the upmost speed in the formation of the Transport Committee. The rush-hour train services to and from Billericay are past saturation point, and if more houses are built while the present timetable is operating, then the situation will become extremely grave. An inquiry into local bus services is also needed especially the Chelmsford services. Of course the Council will come out with their stock cry "Industry for Billericay". Many factories on the Industrial Estate are now in operation, but has there been any reduction in the rush-hour crush? No. Every working evening a stream of workers from the Industrial Estate can be seen going towards the Station to catch trains to places outside the Urban District (adding to the crush towards Southend) or catching buses or special coaches for Basildon. Office development could help, but industrial development is very little use to Billericay people.