



Chainsaw Massacre Proposed

Despite claims that only a few trees would be lost, the Council's detailed engineering plans show that over 100 are to be sacrificed, confirming our worst fears.

The Civic News (CN) outlining the Council's plans for Priory Park, Cuckoo Corner and Priory Crescent, was distributed throughout the borough in early December. Seldom can a Council have condensed so much deliberately misleading information into a single document.

The CN presented as fact that no park land will be used for this scheme, yet they plan to build a new railway bridge through land protected by the 1929 covenant "forever to be maintained as open space and shrubberies".

The Council propose to move the south footpath of the northern section of Priory Crescent inside the park to make room for the dual carriageway. This will take Park land and causes serious concern about pedestrian access and safety at night.

The CN states as fact "journey time reduction". Their officers have repeatedly stated that "journey time will **not** be reduced even if calculated over a 30 year period". The Council claims to be making these proposals for the benefit of businesses in the borough, yet the Chamber of Commerce, which officially represents Southend businesses, does **not** support this scheme.

The Civic News is the entirety of the Council's "thorough consultation". If people don't respond to it, they will be taken as having voted for the Council's scheme.

JUST FANCY THAT!

The Mayor of Southend, Councillor Howard Briggs, twice wrote to PPPS committee members assuring us that, as Mayor, he had to remain impartial. He then voted in favour of the road scheme.

Roger Weaver has stated in a Council meeting that it would be "unacceptable" for the new road scheme to use Park land, yet he was the Councillor responsible for producing a scheme which will ruin the north side of Priory Park.

Councillor Ron Price has several times stated that he is a Champion of the Park. He also voted in favour of the road scheme.

The majority of Tory Councillors have stated that the "preferred option" to widen Priory Crescent will not take park land when the Council's own maps prove that it will.

Can you really trust these people to run our town openly and honestly?

The Council's consultation deadline passed on 31st January. The PPPS Petition, containing 15206 signatures was handed to Paul Mathieson at the Civic Centre.

You can still lobby your councillor by writing to them at the Civic Centre, Victoria Avenue, Southend-on-Sea. SS2 6ER

Councillors Show their Colours in Vote

On the 8th November, Councillors David and Jane Norman put forward a proposal to abandon this scheme.

How they Voted:

Voting to abandon the scheme: **Labour** Councillors; Dandridge, Garne, George, McMahon, D.Norman, J.Norman, Robinson, Royston, Velmurugan. **Lib Dem** Councillor; Clinkscales.

Voting for the scheme: **Conservative** Councillors; Ashcroft, Aylen, Briggs, Brown, Carr, Cole, Cushion, Davy, Delaney, Dolby, Evans, Foster, D.Garston, J.Garston, Gorham, Holland, Horrigan, Houssart, Jarvis, Kelly, Lamb, Latham, Moring, North, Price, Rayner, Robertson, Salter, Waite, Walker, Weaver, White, Wilson. **Lib Dem** Councillors; Baker, Crystall, Longley.

Walking in a Winter Wonderland

The joint demonstration organised by the PPPS, Friends of the Earth and Parklife on the 8th of December was well-attended by determined Southend residents, including some Labour Councillors.

Thanks to all those who braved the wintry weather to show the Council what our park means to us!



Important Petition News

We have a huge number of the yellow petition sheets outstanding. If you have any, or copies, please return them to 62 East Street, Prittlewell as soon as possible, even if they are not full of signatures.

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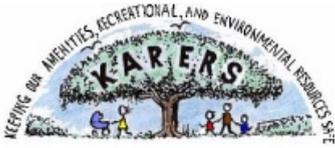
Please feel free to duplicate and distribute this newsletter.

Email: news@ppps.org.uk

Phone: 01702 309693

Website: <http://www.ppps.org.uk>

Five Groups Working Together as One



KARERS



PPPS



Parklife



Green Party



Friends of the Earth

Friends of the Earth

THE PRIORY PARK CONSULTATION - IT'S UP TO YOU!

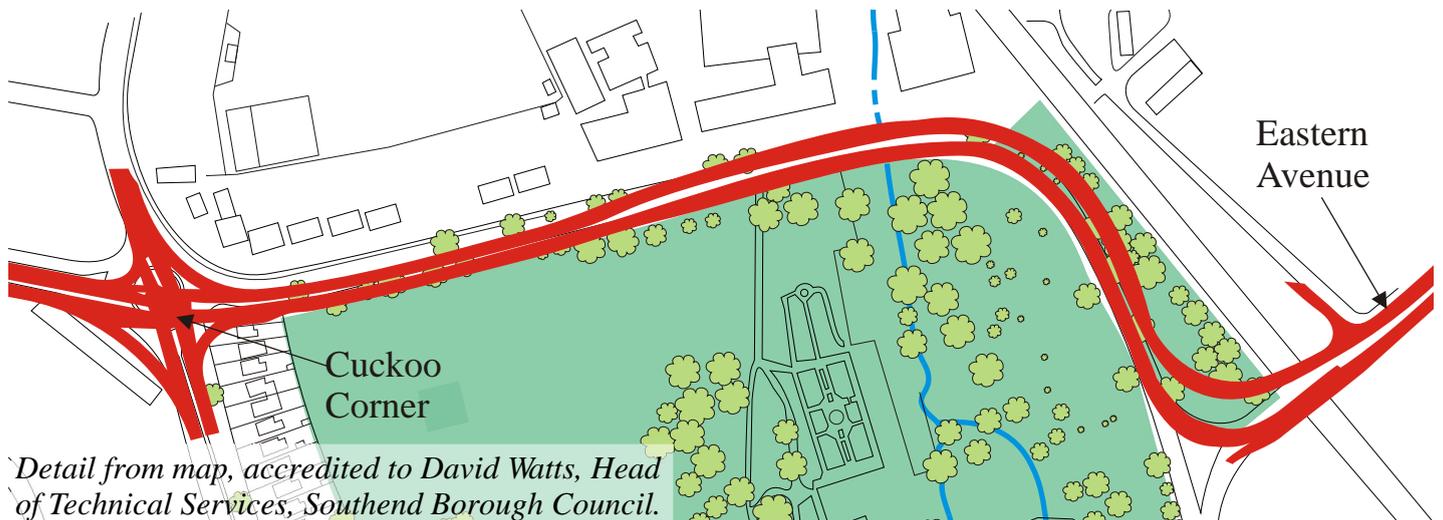
The borough planners want to use land on the northern boundary of Priory Park (shown below) to build a dual carriageway.

Priory Park was given to the people of the Borough of Southend-on-Sea by the benefactor, Robert Arthur Jones, in 1917, "to be held, used and enjoyed in perpetuity as a Public Park".

We - KARERS, PPPS, Parklife, The Green Party and Friends of the Earth - are opposed to the Council's road widening scheme on Priory Crescent and are determined for the Park to be maintained in the legal definition and spirit of Mr Jones's bequest.

The Council's preferred option (F5) will:

- **Destroy** over 100 mature trees
- **Increase** traffic, noise and air pollution
- **Not** reduce journey time
- Cause significant **loss** of Park land on the northern and eastern boundaries
- Encourage future **loss** of green space on the Eastern side of town



Detail from map, accredited to David Watts, Head of Technical Services, Southend Borough Council.

Our proposal

KARERS, PPPS, Parklife, The Green Party and Friends of the Earth propose that Priory Park and its surroundings are preserved in their entirety, and are never subjected to any loss or degradation from road building or development.

I agree with the proposal to save Priory Park

I agree with the Council's proposal

Details (optional)

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Please send this to:

PPPS Survey, 62, East Street, Southend-on-Sea. SS2 6LH

For the latest news, visit
The PPPS Website

Priory Park Preservation Society

Council Meeting, 13 Dec - [Weaver gives planning deadline extension](#)
Our response to the Civic News article - [Council can't be trusted on road scheme](#)
Priory Park Christmas Cards [now available](#)

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Petition now has **12159** signatures and counting!
(Since 20th Jul 2011)
 004256
visitors since 30th Oct 2011

<http://www.pppps.org.uk>