

# ELMER SANDS NEWS

Issue Number Forty-three

October 2023

Sponsored by Bernhardt Associates

Welcome to the Autumn 2023 edition of the Elmer Sands News. When we put together the first edition twenty two years ago some people said it wouldn't last. I couldn't be more delighted that we have proved them wrong. It is still compiled and delivered by volunteers. Thank you all.



What do you call a witch who lives at the beach? A sand-witch

What do you get when you drop a pumpkin? Squash!

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Save these dates for forthcoming ESL social events:

**31st October - Halloween Party.** This will take place at the Kiosk and on the Field. It starts at 5.15 with hotdogs and drinks for the children as well as a Fancy Dress Competition and the amazing Inferno Sisters fire dancing act.

**15th December - Christmas Songs and Carols,** mince pies and mulled wine. Further details will be put on Elmer Sands Estate Community Group facebook

page, the notice boards and on the banner so don't forget to check.

All these events are free to Elmer Sands residents, family and friends. We will be collecting money for charity at both events so please bring along any loose change you can spare.



## Elmer Sands Parking What you need to know -

There seems to be a lot of confusion about parking on the Estate. In a nutshell: ESL Members can park 'temporarily' on Estate land (roads and verges).

ESL does not issue parking permits. Members should clearly display their ESL windscreen stickers so they can be identified. This is important to avoid tickets being issued inappropriately and costs being incurred. Residents who do not pay their yearly subscriptions towards management of the Estate are not entitled to park on Estate land – verges or roads. This also applies to their visitors.

You can find the full ESL Parking Policy and details of how to report issues on the ESL website or by request from the ESL Secretary. [www.elmersands.co.uk](http://www.elmersands.co.uk)

ESL contracts One Parking Solution to issue parking charges for non-compliance with the ESL Policy [www.oneparkingsolution.co.uk](http://www.oneparkingsolution.co.uk)

The bottom line is that ESL is trying to reasonably and fairly manage parking on the Estate for the benefit of everyone, to preserve our assets and ensure that Elmer Sands remains a safe and desirable place to live.

Enquiries:

[secretary@elmersands.co.uk](mailto:secretary@elmersands.co.uk)  
Elmer Sands Ltd

## **Dates for your Diary**

**Halloween Party, Kiosk**  
**31st October**  
**ESBAC Halloween Party**  
**4th November**  
**Christmas Social, Kiosk**  
**15th December**

**ESL Estate Road Repairs:** At the beginning of October, Katternhorn carried out some remedial road work to various parts of the estate. The aim was to fix some of the potential trip hazards and preserve road surfaces which had degraded over recent years.

Line painting was also carried out where road repairs had been undertaken.

The roads team would like to thank all residents for their patience whilst the works were carried out. **Elmer Sands Ltd**

**FLOOD WATCH - Elmer Sands** - If you see or have a flooding problem, please continue to contact the agencies responsible but also, contact your representative in Elmer Sands. Thank you. I can be contacted by email: [linda.smith@talktalk.net](mailto:linda.smith@talktalk.net) or through E.S. Secretary. **Linda Smith**

**As the nights are drawing in and the end of British Summertime approaches please remember that residents retire earlier to bed. Therefore in respect of being neighbourly, could we request that dog owners make sure that their dogs are not left barking outside at night. Many Thanks. Elmer Sands Resident**

**Surface Water and Drainage:** Having identified, with the help of Arun District Council, that the rife between The Layne and Lane End Road needed some attention in order to preserve the integrity of the estate, ESL instructed a contractor to carry out some major work to remove overgrown trees and to clear the floor of the rife. This will not be a regular occurrence and the responsibility for maintaining the rife now reverts back to the individual homeowners who share riparian rights for the rife.

To complete the project, there will be more work undertaken over the course of October to remove the remaining brambles, reeds and weeds, by the ESL team and volunteers. **If you would be happy to help with this work and can**

**help with the removal of rubbish to the local tip, please contact the ESL Secretary for more details.**

The ditch around the outfall pipe at the top of The Layne and Ancton Way has also been cleared by Andrew as part of his maintenance of the grounds and he will also be clearing the rife at the end of Ancton Way / Elmer Close in the coming weeks.

Finally, ESL will be undertaking drain jetting across the estate very shortly. More details to follow. **Elmer Sands Ltd**



**One of the joys of living at Elmer is our close proximity to the sea: however, over recent years there have been more and more concerns about the quality of the water around us.**

The UK's antiquated sewerage system plus water companies failing to invest in infrastructure have created a situation where a network of around 18,000 licensed sewer overflows routinely discharge raw sewage into rivers and the sea.

Unfortunately the UK now consistently ranks as one of the worst European countries for coastal water quality. Recently there have been a number of releases in Bognor Regis and Littlehampton, however Elmer Beach according to the EA seems to fare a little better. They currently take samples every

week between May and September, which makes it worth regularly looking at their website. If you are worried about water quality these might help: For Southern Water: Real time sewage release <https://southernwater.co.uk/water-for-life/beachbuoy> For the Environment Agency: Bathing water quality <https://environment.data.gov.uk/bwq/profiles/> For Surfers Against Sewage: Bathing Water Quality <https://www.sas.org.uk/water-quality/sewage-pollution-alerts/> From this website you can download the Safer Seas and Rivers app to report any sewage discharges to both your local MP and to Southern Water. You can also report if you have been sick after swimming and if there is evidence of pollution by sending in photographs. You can also add your name and location to a watchlist and they will put an alert up when there is either a sewage discharge or pollution risk/incident alert. If you have any major issues or concerns, then please email Lawrence Gosden, CEO at Southern Water [lawrencegosden@southernwater.co.uk](mailto:lawrencegosden@southernwater.co.uk) as well as your local MP, Nick Gibb at [gibbn@parliament.uk](mailto:gibbn@parliament.uk)

**ESL Coastal pollution Group**

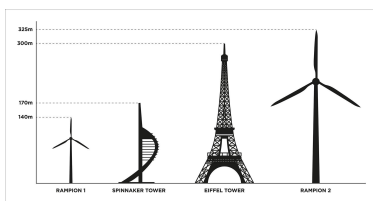
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## Holiday Letting Elmer Sands Properties on Elmer Sands have been let for

holidays since the 1930s but the rapid increase in letting through agents such as Airbnb is having a negative impact on some neighbouring properties. Owners are reminded to ensure that ESL policies are incorporated with their guest information and that membership to ESL must be fully paid up to date or guests will not be permitted to use ESL communal facilities. Any activity at the property should not impact on residents' quiet enjoyment of this private estate. Residents can report issues of concern to the relevant authorities - Arun District Environmental Health for noise nuisance and the Police for anti-social behaviour - or directly to the letting Agent if known. Alternatively, members can send reports to ESL to be forwarded directly to the property owner or their representatives. Thank you for your co-operation.

### Elmer Sands Ltd



### RAMPION 2

If you pop down to the beach at Elmer and glance to the east you'll see the wind turbines of Rampion 1 which consists of 116 installations which are about 11 miles away as the seagull flies. They are even more noticeable at night when each tower has a

sequenced flashing light to alert aeroplanes, helicopters, vessels and annoy astronomers. Some think they are fairy lights and quite pretty providing energy we really need and some think they are a blight on the landscape and in the wrong place for wind generation. But whatever you think, a large extension of these giants across the sea horizon is coming to our beach quite soon.

During the COVID 19 pandemic the German company RWE conducted a consultation on a proposal to build a number of new turbines some 8 miles or 13 km offshore running from Worthing to near Selsey Bill. Originally another 116 turbines were proposed but the final number of turbines has come down to 90. Rampion 1 had windmills at 140 metres or 459.3 ft high, but Rampion 2 will have structures of maximum tip height of 325m above the lowest tide which is 1,066 feet. They will be nearer and about 2.3 times higher than the structures of Rampion 1. In the picture you can see the giant size turbines each taller than the Eiffel Tower. The final specification of the turbines hasn't yet been finalised as they will be bought from a third party, probably Siemens in Germany.

Each turbine will be pile driven into the seabed and will have something like a 25 year life span. From first preparation of the seabed to the final installation of the turbines will take about a year. Huge floating platforms will slide them into place in an amazingly short time. A series of

cables will have to be laid through the South Downs National Park to run to the new substation to be built near Cowfold and Bolney, this will then be fed into the National Grid. The need to access the cabling will mean that the 50 metre wide strip cannot be allowed to overgrow, even though it's in the National Park. This has created some opposition from nature groups, but others point out the benefits of clean energy.

In September I got official notification that the revised Rampion 2 wind farm application had been accepted to proceed to examination which is the last official process before approval is granted. This is very unlikely to be refused with the current energy needs. One way or another it is coming to the sea horizon in the near future. There is no firm installation timeline at this stage, but it will be fully operational in the second part of this decade, between 2026 and 2030. 2025 looks the likeliest year for the start of seabed preparation and foundation laying.

You can decide for yourself how you feel about the turbines and their impact by looking at these websites. Protect Coastal Sussex, a group set up by local people, which is pretty much against it and Rampion 2's own website is the company's case for the scheme.

<https://www.protectcoastalsussex.org/> <https://rampion2.com/>

**GERRY EASTER, RESIDENT**



## ESBAC

A big thank you to everyone who has helped with the boat club this year. Also a warm welcome to all our new members.

Any correspondence can be emailed to the secretary Lisa Chatterton or Commodore Adi Howe

[esbacemail@gmail.com](mailto:esbacemail@gmail.com)

/Facebook ESBAC (Elmer sands boating and angling club)

### Environment Agency (EA) Sea Defences

We continue to be in regular contact with the EA with regards to potential future flooding concerns. We have been monitoring the shingle embankment and more of the gabions are becoming exposed

but the crest width has stayed at around 5m so at the moment the EA do not intend to bring in any more shingle. However they are planning some works at Climping in November and will bring some shingle in then if they haven't already done so.

For a while their consultants have been looking at the viability of various more permanent options for Elmer and now have a draft report. We have been told that once it is finalised, we will have a meeting.

We have also been assured that the Elmer Rife will be cleared this year and the outfall checked. The activity we have witnessed from the EA recently certainly looks promising.

In the meanwhile we continue to monitor the beach and the estate keeping the EA informed of every development. Linda Smith

*What did the skeleton say to the bartender? I'll have two beers and a mop!*

**ESBAC**

**HALLOWEEN PARTY**  
at the boat club  
Open to all ESL AND ESBAC

**SATURDAY**  
**4TH NOVEMBER**  
**STARTS 6:30 PM**  
**7.30PM Flipside disco**

**Please bring own drinks and food for table.**

**HAPPY HALLOWEEN**

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