**AMAZING YOUTH SPIRIT CHAMPIONED AT SEVENTH TENDRING YOUTH AWARDS**

FANTASTIC young people and their successes in personal and community life were revealed at the presentation evening held at Clacton’s Princes Theatre on 3rd October, with the judges praising all of those nominated.

Celebrating their seventh year, the awards commemorate achievements by young people across a range of categories – along with a category now for adults who support young people in Tendring.

Harwich Haven Authority is the headline sponsor this year which is supported by Tendring District Council and Essex County Council. Other sponsors are Actual Radio, the Princes Theatre, Halterman Carless and Nova Training, along with the new sponsors Aquinas Provisions Ltd who introduced a new school Attendance Award category for 2023.

To keep up-to-date with the Tendring Youth Awards, or for organisations interested in being a sponsor, visit <https://www.tendringdc.gov.uk/community/young-people/tendring-youth-awards> or go to the to the awards’ Facebook and Instagram pages.

**WORK BEGINS ON TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION FACILITY**

Contractors have begun work to revamp a former sheltered housing block.

Spendells House, in Walton-on-the-Naze, is being converted by Tendring District Council (TDC) into temporary accommodation to house people and families who find themselves homeless.

Contractors Arc Group London Ltd has taken possession of the site in Naze Park Road and started the works, which are expected to be completed in Spring 2024.

The existing two-storey accommodation will be renovated and additional facilities added, to provide 32 flats, including one which will be wheelchair accessible – while there will be flexibility to connect some flats to accommodate larger families.

Laundry and bathroom facilities will be added, and the adjoining bungalow on the site will be converted to provide office space for TDC staff and partner agencies supporting the families in the temporary housing.

Two members of staff will be on site during office hours, with other provision outside those hours, to manage the building and support households.

**UPDATED EMPLOYMENT POLICIES SUPPORT SPECIAL CONSTABLES AT COUNCIL**

Council staff are being supported to volunteer with Essex Police as part of a new partnership.

Tendring District Council (TDC) is working with the force to support those who volunteer as Special Constables through the national Employer Supported Policing scheme.

Special Constables are volunteers who want to give something back to their local communities, making them safer places to live and work. They are fully warranted police officers with full police powers, the same uniform, equipment and responsibilities.

Run by the Home Office the Employer Supported Policing scheme encourages employers to provide paid time off for Specials to volunteer.

TDC has recently adopted a new Employee Volunteer and Public Duties Policy, under which Special Constables employed by the authority can have a further 10 days’ paid leave for policing activities.

Les Hawkins, the Specials Supported Policing Coordinator at Essex Police added this is a positive partnership with TDC.

“It will allow those who become Special Constables to develop even stronger ties with those communities that they serve, both in their day job and while on the beat.”

To find out more about becoming a Special Constable visit <https://www.essex.police.uk/>