



Fair Finance for All

# AGM News 2015

Simple Local Ethical Banking for EVERYONE in Essex

**Lending has reached £4.7 Million (5,500 loans)**

**Essex Savers is now open in Barclays: Burnham, Corringham**  
as well as Southend, Clacton, Harwich, Brentwood & Chelmsford.

**Christmas Loans – were up again this year!**

Much in demand is **Essex Savers Short-Term Loan** (alternative to Payday)

We are continuing to add Barclays Branch to our Service Points across Essex. We need more volunteers so we can take advantage of Barclays' premises in areas where we do not yet have a presence. Do consider volunteering in your area a few hours a week or month so we can extend access to our services across a wider geographical area.

**Essex Savers** celebrated International Credit Union Day in October – 50 years of credit unions in the UK and **Essex Savers 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary** with an Open Day at Chelmsford and Grays. Credit Unions are getting better known here now but still only used by a small percentage of the population. **We need to be more visible** so people come to us before they are in financial difficulties! They can then take advantage of our services if their bank cannot help or they do not have a fully functional account that enables direct payments of bills etc.

An **Essex Savers 'Short Term' loan** is our alternative to a Payday loan. It is proving very popular and helping people to avoid spiraling debt. It meets the need for immediate cash, until the next payday or over few months. **Essex Savers** members and new members are therefore able to avoid predatory lenders, crippling loan repayments and over indebtedness.

**Essex Savers** continues to grow as people seek alternative banking solutions. Our members are still able to call in or telephone to talk to an Essex Savers staff member or volunteer to get the help and services they need.

**Demand for loans is very high so we need more saving members** to be able to meet this demand – **SO DO LET PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT US.**

**Essex Savers** continues to open in new areas to be more accessible, including Barclays' branches. **WE NEED LOCAL VOLUNTEERS NOW** for Colchester, Grays, Corringham, Braintree as well as for existing Service Points in: **Brentwood, Southend, Clacton and Harwich.**

**Essex Savers website** is giving people better access to our services with all our application forms there to download plus lots of information on our services and where we operate. We also have testimonies from members from their experience with us.

**Businesses and organisations** are joining **Essex Savers**. They benefit from all the same services as individuals: when saving, they are eligible to borrow. This can help with cash flow problems, when they need a piece of new equipment or to buy larger quantities of stock to be more profitable. More businesses joining will speed **Essex Savers** towards sustainability. Organisations are able to offer membership to their staff, as a benefit, with payments made by payroll deduction so loans to their employees can be at our lower interest rates.

**Essex Savers** is scaling up its business to **meet the growing demand and become sustainable** so **please do join**. Save what you can, even if you are still a happy High Street bank customer. You will be helping to alleviate the social problems and the crime that results from predatory lending reducing the resulting costs to you and the community. You will also have access to a affordable credit should you need it.

**We look forward to welcoming you/your business/organisation as a member of**

**Essex Savers**

**For information contact us Tuesday, Wednesday (till 7pm), Thursday, Friday till 2pm):**

Tel: 01245 496314 E-mail: [manager@essexsavers.co.uk](mailto:manager@essexsavers.co.uk) Web: [www.essexsavers.co.uk](http://www.essexsavers.co.uk)

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