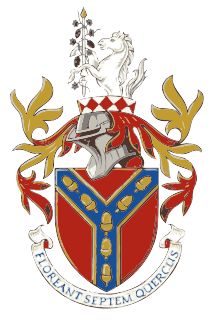


Save the date!
View our season
of events for
your diary **2**

Sevenoaks'
historic markets
carry on a 1,000-
year tradition **4**



Mystery shopper
gives local
businesses a
perfect score **10**



SEVENOAKS Town Crier

News and information from Sevenoaks Town Council

Spring 2025

Sevenoaks is Going for Gold

We're national finalists in
Britain in Bloom 2025!

Sevenoaks Town Council is thrilled to announce that the town has once again been selected as a finalist for Britain in Bloom.

It will be representing the South & South East region in the 2025 RHS Britain in Bloom UK Finals in the Town Centre & City Centre category. Sevenoaks last qualified for Britain in Bloom in 2022 when it won the Silver Gilt award – this time we're going for Gold.

The judging period will be in July/August with the winner announced in October. Last year for the first time The Vine won the top prize for Park of the Year at the South & South East In Bloom awards. And Sevenoaks also scooped Triple Gold for The Town Centre, the Upper High Street Gardens and The Vine.

Now Sevenoaks is in the national finals again in the Town Centres & City Centre category, one of four entrants.

The signature colours for Sevenoaks



Volunteers are needed for tidying up and weeding or (inset) knitting bees and bugs

this year will be purple and blue, with flashes of white and yellow, and the theme is Celebrating Bugs. Edible plants and herbs will be planted, and flowers for pollinators.

In 2024 The House in the Basement youth café at The Stag was awarded the category of 'Thriving' for the RHS 'It's Your Neighbourhood' campaign (Community Gardening). This year they are looking for LEGO flower donations to create a botanical LEGO display.

Volunteers are asked to help with

gardening, planting and tidy up days (dates will be announced), and also with knitting bees to display, and painting ladybird rocks. Businesses can give staff time to volunteer with gardening and tidy up days or sponsor flower beds or planters in the town.

• *If you would like to help, please contact Sevenoaks Town Council via osl@sevenoakstown.gov.uk or call 01732 459953. More information is on the Britain in Bloom page on www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk*

Sign up for the electronic Town Crier to keep up with Town Council news Get a quarterly Town Crier sent to your inbox to make sure you don't miss out on any useful local information and events. To sign up see the sign-up information at www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk



**Sevenoaks Town Council
full budget and precept
for 2025/6 Pages 7, 8 & 9**



Follow us on social media at:



or visit us online at sevenoakstown.gov.uk

3 Mayor's View

4 & 5 Council News:
Historic markets,
new Community Bus,
Annual Report and VE
Day event

6 & 7 Council News:
Twin town updates and
Climate Fair

7, 8 & 9 Budget and
precept for 2025/6

10 Town Team News

11 Youth Services

13 Greatness
Recreation ground:
complete our survey

13 What's On at the
Stag

14 Volunteering roles

16 Guide to Town
Council services



Scan to read on your
smartphone or tablet

Spring & Summer 2025

April

5 April Vegan Food Market with live music on the Vine Gardens. See page 10

26 April Sevenoaks Welcomes Refugees fundraising concert at The Stag - see www.sevenoakswelcomesrefugees.org

May

3 May SCAN Climate Fair on the Vine Gardens. Free entry, see page 6. Stalls, music, food, activities.

4 May Free Children's Theatre 2pm start in Marquee on Vine Gardens with Professor Slug's House of Bugs organised by Sevenoaks Town Council. *This interactive show is packed full of colourful puppets, catchy songs, and educational info about the wonderful world of bugs.* Plus free insect rock painting workshop for rocks to display for Sevenoaks's 'Celebrating Bugs' entry for Britain In Bloom 2025! Check council Facebook and website nearer the time for full information.

5 May (Bank Holiday) **VE Day 80th Anniversary Concert on Bandstand** organised by Sevenoaks District Council. More information nearer the time.

8 May VE Day 80th anniversary 2025. Free concert in Bandstand from 6.30pm, with fish and chips and ice cream vans on the Vine Gardens, followed by procession and Beacon Lighting at 8.30pm. With Volunteers Showcase stalls for local organisations and charities. Organised by Sevenoaks Town Council See page 5.

June

6 June Outdoor Pentecost Church Service at 6pm on the Vine Brandstand and Vine Gardens by St Nicholas Church. See www.stnicholas-sevenoaks.org

7 & 8 June The Annual Beer on the Vine event organised by the Round Table and Lions. More information nearer the time.

13 June Sevenoaks Business Show at Bat and Ball Centre. Organised by Sevenoaks Town Team. More information nearer the time.

Dates to be confirmed Tidy Up Volunteer days for In Britain in Bloom. Please come and help with some tidying up and

weeding to get the town looking its best! Visit www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk for information nearer the time or email osl@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

15-21 June Refugee Week - including Desperate Journeys immersive workshops www.sevenoakswelcomesrefugees.org

21 June Sevenoaks Summer Festival starts to 6 July. Visit www.sevenoaksfestival.org.uk

28 June Concert for Armed Forces Day at St Nicholas' Church, Sevenoaks. 7pm. Sponsored by Sevenoaks Town Council. Tickets can be purchased from centralband.com/AFD2025 See page 10.

July

20 July to 7 Sept Music on the Bandstand free concerts organised by Sevenoaks Town Council, every Thursday evening 6-8pm and Sunday afternoons 3-5pm. See www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk and Facebook page.

August

Bandstand concerts continue through August every Thursday evening and Sunday afternoon.

4 August Free Family Fun Day at Greatness Recreation Ground with Sevenoaks District Council and Sevenoaks Town Council.

19-22 August Free Children's Theatre: Fungi Frida and the Myco Heroes organised by Sevenoaks Town Council - performances at 4 venues in the town. 19 (Bat and Ball Centre), 20 (Pontoise Play Area), 21 (Greatness Recreation Ground), 22 August (Vine Gardens) More information nearer the time.

September

7 Sept Almost the Last Night of the Proms See the summer out in style with the final free Bandstand concert on the Vine Gardens 3-5pm.

Please visit the Town Council's Facebook page and website for updates: www.facebook.com/SevenoaksTC www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk

Mayor pays tribute to volunteers and residents after a busy year in office

Cllr Libby Ancrum
Mayor of Sevenoaks



On 17 March 2025, the Town Council hosted the Annual Town Meeting in the Bat and Ball Centre. This is a significant public event when the Council provides an opportunity for Sevenoaks residents to engage with the Town Council, hear about progress over the past year and also learn more of planned developments in and around the town.

Our programme of events partnering with a wide range of different organisations is designed to offer opportunities to local businesses, to raise awareness of current concerns such as the Climate fair and to support voluntary groups focused on improving the well-being of town residents.

It has been a busy year for me with many invitations to local events at schools, care homes, voluntary organisations as well as hosting a series of events to raise money for the charities which I have specifically chosen to support.

I am grateful for the way in which Sevenoaks residents are so supportive of these activities both as volunteers and attendees at events. Over the course of the year, I will have attended around 110 events.

Alongside these engagements, it has been a pleasure to work with the rest of our councillors on a day-to-day basis helping make good decisions for residents.

Kent has a very active network of Mayors. I have had the opportunity to meet up with other representatives of towns and boroughs from all corners of the county, from Folkestone and Swale to Swanley and Dartford, to name just a few.

It is always interesting to gain an insight into the voluntary groups and charities which are supported in other locations



The Mayor and local school children at the Christmas Lights event 2024 (top) with cadets in Knole Park and lighting the beacon for D-Day 80th in June

and to have an exchange of ideas about local initiatives.

During the year, I have been particularly well-supported by our local Air Cadets who have turned out to help with civic events as well as those of voluntary organisations. I would like to pay tribute to all the local adult volunteers who support the cadets. As someone with a teaching career, I have been most impressed by the way these programmes help to develop important skills for young people as well as encouraging them to be active in their communities.

An early event for me and highlight of the year in more ways than one was the 80th anniversary D-Day 'light of peace' Beacon Lighting on 6th June. I am looking

forward to finishing the year with another historic 80th anniversary, this time for VE day on 8th May. It is important to mark these occasions not least because they are an ongoing reminder of how fragile peace feels in the world at the current time.

None of these events and activities would happen without the hard work and dedication of our Town Council staff, and I thank them for making it such a pleasurable year for me.

When I came to live in Sevenoaks 28 years ago this summer, I hardly imagined that I would find myself in the role of Mayor. It is a great privilege to have been asked to represent Sevenoaks and I am honoured to have had the opportunity.

Historic market keeps trading in the heart of Sevenoaks

This Spring the market will continue trading in the High Street in the heart of the town for both Wednesdays and Saturdays as it has for hundreds of years.

The fresh produce market sells fruit and vegetables, flowers and plants, bread and baked goods and fresh fish, while the Bligh's Walk market on Saturday has artisan crafts and speciality foods.

The Wednesday market had been operating in Buckhurst Lane behind the bus station for some years but moved to the High Street before Christmas and traders are happy with the transition.

ITV News Meridian visited in January to film a special report on the 100th year anniversary of the purchase of the market rights for the townspeople of Sevenoaks.

In 1925 the Urban District Council paid Kent & Sussex Farmers £450 (equivalent to £35,000 today) for the Saturday market rights to safeguard its future after difficult times, and to continue its more than 1,000 years of history.

The historic market started in Anglo Saxon times and pre-dates the Norman Conquest of 1066.

Reporter Tony Green interviewed long standing stallholders, the Wood (flowers and plants) and the Westley (fruit and veg) families, who have been part of Sevenoaks market for 50 years and are third generation traders.

Third generation fishmonger Paul James of Pauls Fresh Fish, who joined the market last year, was also interviewed.

The markets run on Wednesdays (8am to 2pm) and Saturdays (9am to 4pm) all year round in the High Street outside the Chequers pub, and the Saturday market in Bligh's Walk runs February to December (9am to 4pm). www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk



Market trader Bill Westley is interviewed

Revving up to the Sevenoaks Community Bus Scheme

A new Sevenoaks Community Bus Scheme for local groups is set to be launched by the Town Council following its successful application for a grant of almost £90,000 from Kent County Council.

The grant covers £77,745 capital grant to buy a vehicle and equipment, and £9,350 revenue grant to cover initial set up costs, a total of £87,095. The scheme will run for a minimum of three years.

The community bus project, once up and running, will mean that local

community groups will be able to hire the minibus at a cost lower than renting one commercially.

The council is looking at electric vehicles to fit in with its Green Community Investment Plan.

More information will be available via the website and social media once the scheme is in place.



Read the council's Annual Report!

Thank you to the residents who came along to the Annual Town Public Meeting on March 17 when Sevenoaks Town Council presented its Annual Report 2024/2025 about the council's work in the community.

The report covers the council activities over the last year, from managing open spaces to public events, from celebrations to cemeteries. It can be read online on the QR code. Copies can also be picked up from the Town Council offices in Bradbourne Vale Road. Please call 01732 459953 or email us on council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk if you are not able to either use the internet or come to the offices to get a copy and would like one sent to you.



SCAN ME

Join us to mark the 80th Anniversary of VE Day on the Vine Gardens on May 8

There will be a fish and chip van on the Vine Gardens from 6pm for you to purchase this traditional British meal, and an ice cream van. The café on the Vine will also be open and the Pavillion bar.

You can also bring a picnic to enjoy on the grass. There will be a free concert in the Bandstand from 6.30pm-8pm with the Jean Bentley Orchestra, playing wartime tunes and songs.

In the theme of public service, there will also be a volunteer showcase on the Vine Gardens, with local charities and groups having displays and welcoming people interested in finding out about volunteering.

Then at 8pm join the procession to the

War Memorial and Beacon for a moving tribute ceremony and Beacon Lighting at 8.30pm. There will also be a special musical performance at the Beacon after it is lit.

Any groups who would like free space to promote their organisation please email council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk or call 01732 459953. www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk



WE'RE ON YOUR DOORSTEP

Having a local office means we're accessible, whether you need to make changes to your policy or make a claim.

We offer insurance products including:

- Car
- Home
- Business
- Tradesman
- Fleet
- Commercial Vehicle
- Pensions
- Investments
- Income Protection

For more information, get in touch with your local office:
 01732 496050 | 144 High Street, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 1XE
 01474 813 141 | Satellite House, Wrotham Road, Meopham,
 Kent, DA13 0QB



SATURDAY 3RD MAY
THE VINE GARDENS 10:30AM - 4:00PM

SEVENOAKS CLIMATE FAIR **FREE ENTRY**



SEVENOAKS CAN
 Sevenoaks TOWN COUNCIL
 ppl architects

EVERYONE WELCOME!
TALKS STALLS WORKSHOPS FOOD & DRINK & MUCH MORE
 BRINGING TOGETHER BUSINESSES, CHARITIES & COMMUNITY GROUPS
 WHO ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT SOLVING THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY,
 TO EMPOWER SEVENOAKS TO REACH NET ZERO



Council news

30th anniversary of the Friends of Rheinbach – our twin town in Germany



The Friends of Rheinbach was formed in 1995 to develop a friendly twinning relationship with Rheinbach, a town of similar size in Germany.

You do not need to speak German to become a member of the Friends of Rheinbach but by joining you will benefit from:

- Making new friends with a common interest in Germany
- Attending at least three social events each year
- The possibility every other year of visiting Rheinbach,

establishing and renewing friendships there

- Enjoying in alternate years the visit from our friends in Rheinbach and participating in the organised events for the visit

Joining the Friends of Rheinbach could not be easier: just go to our website and click on 'Join' to access a very simple membership form or use 'Contact' to get in touch.

• *Learn more about us and the town of Rheinbach at: friends-of-rheinbach.org.uk*



In partnership with



Pay-As-You-Go Vehicle Rental in Sevenoaks

Sevenoaks residents two year offer:

Join for ~~£120~~ FREE & get £20 free driving credit

Quote offer code: **SEVENOAKS20**



*First two year's annual plan membership FREE (usually and thereafter £60/yr). £20 driving credit valid for 90 days and excluding mileage, applied once application is approved. For Sevenoaks residents only. Offer valid until 30/12/2026. 10% off Enterprise Rent-A-Car is valid for UK and Ireland reservations only. For full terms and conditions, please visit www.EnterpriseCarClub.co.uk/tc1. ©2024 Enterprise Car Club M06063 04.24. AP



Sevenoaks Town Council sets its Council Tax precept for 2025/26

Sevenoaks Town Council has unveiled its annual budget and the Council Tax precept to enable it to provide services for the town community at a cost of £2.96 per week for local residents.

In setting the 2025 / 2026 it considered the following key points:

1. CONTINUING TO PROVIDE FREE TO ACCESS COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Town Council recognises that these are difficult financial times, and that other Councils are reducing services and there is a lot of uncertainty in general due to potential local government reorganisation. Town Councillors believe it is important to maintain local community services for people to be able to use, especially those free to access which include parks, play facilities and community events.

2. INCREASING SUPPORT TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

The Town Council has also increased considerably the grant budget for local voluntary organisations, recognising their financial difficulties and limited sources of funding.

3. MEETING NEW GOVERNMENT REQUIREMENTS

It is meeting the government requirement of increased National Insurance which equals two per cent on the rates and which the Town Council, unlike other Local Authorities, is not able to reclaim.

4. CONTINUING TO INVEST IN NEW FACILITIES

The Town Council is continuing to invest in the community - the purchase of Longspring Woods is an example, when Town Council funding was matched by a

successful public pledge campaign to save an ancient woodland for residents.

The total annual Total Annual Revenue Budget for 2025-6 has been set at £1,997,096.

Of this 77 per cent comes from the domestic ratepayer's precept (Council Tax). Twenty-two per cent (£451,949) of the budget comes from generated income including fees and services such as community halls, sports pitches, markets, cemetery, and cafes.

Sevenoaks Town Council has agreed to set its Council Tax Precept for 2025/6 at £1,545.147, a 5.7 per cent increase resulting in a Band D equivalent house paying £153.67 per annum which is £2.96 per week. This is an increase of £8.34 per year/17 pence per week compared to 2024-2025. See pages 8 & 9.

Plans move on for new twinning association with Italy

Would you like to be involved in a new twinning association with Ceto in Italy? So far several Sevenoaks residents have come to a meeting about this, and we would like to hear from more interested people to progress the scheme.

Sevenoaks has been twinned for many years with Pontoise in France and Rheinbach in Germany. The twinning arrangements are coordinated by a group of volunteers with a small grant each year from the Town Council.

A request was received from previous Sevenoaks resident Christopher Martin,

in the medieval town of Ceto in Brescia Province, Lombardy, to start a new twinning group with Sevenoaks. Christopher, who is a member of the town hall committee, teaches at a high school in a town called Breno.

The Mayor of Ceto, Marina Lanzetti said: "Ceto is a charming village nestled in an alpine valley called Valcamonica. The town and the area are famous for being part of the very first Unesco site in Italy, the rock engravings (incisioni rupestri) of Valle Camonica.

"Here you will find traditions still

rooted in our daily life, incredible food, hospitality and the most beautiful mountains you could imagine! We are excited about the possibility of a twinning with Sevenoaks, as we believe it would be a great opportunity for both our towns to get to know new cultures and people.

"Our schools could collaborate on different projects and we could organise holidays and cultural exchanges."

If you are interested please email council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk or call 01732 459953.



Local Elected Members providing local services with a commitment to delivering and protecting Community Facilities



BUDGET 2025/2026

2025/2026 Budget Key Points

Sevenoaks Town Council remains committed to supporting local voluntary groups, increasing grant funding by 6.5% to help charities continue vital community services.

Challenges and Strategic Goals for 2025/2026

The 2025/2026 budget has been developed amid challenging financial conditions, including increased employer contributions to national insurance and a rise in the minimum wage equal to a 2% uplift. Despite these pressures, the Council has identified the following key aims, in addition its day to day operation for the upcoming year:

1. Sustaining Service Delivery:

Ensuring that all existing services continue to be provided at the highest possible standard.

2. Supporting the Volunteer Sector:

Reinforcing the invaluable work of local voluntary groups by enhancing funding opportunities.

3. Prioritising completion of two Masterplans.

4. Subject to successful funding progressing Greatness Recreation Ground new Pavilion.

5. Continuing to provide "free to attend" community events.

6. Reviewing and consulting on the future of Community Assets subject to the local Government re-organisation.

Some of the functions and facilities the Town Council provides:

- Grants to local organisations £67K
- Cemetery
- Bus shelters
- 7 play areas
- 6 community buildings
- 17 public open spaces
- 2 allotment sites
- Community events
- Markets
- Public seats
- Youth Café & Youth Council
- 11 Sports Pitches
- Floral displays and Christmas Lights
- Litter bins and litter collecting
- Public toilets

For a full 2024/2025 annual report please view www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk/Annual_Report_30259.aspx

Average Band D home contributes £153.67 per annum/ £2.96 per week



Where does the £1,997,096 Sevenoaks Town Council budget come from?

ANNUAL PRECEPT

£1,545,147

77% of the budget comes from the domestic ratepayer's precept (council tax). The Town Council does not receive any portion of business rates or government grants.

INCOME FROM SERVICES

£451,949

22% of the budget comes from fees and services such as community halls, sports pitches, markets, cemetery, and cafe.

Wherever possible the Town Council aims to provide community facilities at the lowest cost possible to reduce the burden on the taxpayer. At the same time providing the facilities that the community wants and needs. This is often achieved by volunteers assisting in this for which the Town Council continues to remain grateful.

There are some facilities which are not commercially viable including maintenance of public open spaces and play areas and youth facilities, these do not generate income as they are free for public use.

What will it cost per average household (Band D)?

COMMUNITY SERVICES	ADMINISTRATION & FACILITATION	COMMUNITY INVESTMENT	LOCAL REPRESENTATION
Public Open Space – £462k (net cost £320k)	Council Administration £589k (net cost £536k)	Public Works Loan – £72k	Planning Consultation – £41k
Community Events – £61k (net cost £43k)	Council Offices - £53k (net cost £43k)	Contingency – £62k	Democracy costs (including elections) – £16k
Cemetery - £165k (net cost £87k)	IT – £38k	Local Grants to voluntary organisations – £63k	Total £57k (3%)
Community Venues – £219k (net cost £52k)	Insurance – £20k	Total £201k (10%)	
Markets – £43k (net income £9k)	Professional Fees – £15k		
Youth Provision – £73k (net cost £67k)	Total £715k Net Cost £579k (36%)		
Total £1m Net Cost £542k (51%)			

Total Annual Revenue Budget £1,997,096

Annual Cost per Household (Band D)
£153.67 per year / £2.96 per week

An increase of £8.34 per year / 17pence per week
= 5.7% compared to 2024-2025

This leaflet provides a precis of the budget. Complete budget information is available to view on request or via Sevenoaks Town Council's website. Please forward any queries or comments you have regarding the budget by email to Linda Larter, Town Clerk. Sevenoaks Town Council, Council Offices, Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 3QG. Email: townclerk@sevenoakstown.gov.uk. www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk



Mystery shopper gives perfect score for local businesses!

Sevenoaks is proud of its businesses and now we have proof for that to be the case! Funded by a government grant, the Town Team commissioned a professional mystery shopping survey.

Thirty businesses of all kinds were sampled. They included retail, professional services, hospitality and leisure. Each type was surveyed using relevant criteria and the results were extremely pleasing.

Suits Shoes Sir, Rafferty's Café, and Giggling Squid all came up with a perfect result of 100 per cent! Congratulations to them all.

Of the rest, the many scored 90+ per cent with the worst performing being at 52 per cent. Each business privately received

its own report showing its scoring per category and giving improvement recommendations where required. If funding permits, the exercise will be repeated.

There is plenty going on in Sevenoaks this year and the Town Team events dates for your diary are:

Saturday April 5th Spring Vegan market with live music on The Vine

Friday June 13th Sevenoaks Business Show at the Bat & Ball Centre.


Saturday September 6th Sevenoaks Street Food Festival on The Vine

Saturday September 20th Sevenoaks Bike Festival on The Vine


Saturday October 4th Autumn Vegan market with live music on The Vine




Rafferty's café (top) and the Giggling Squid team scored top marks



In partnership with







Armed Forces Day Concert


The Central Band of The Royal British Legion will be performing at St Nicholas Church, Sevenoaks, for an evening filled with inspiring music. This special event honours our brave servicemen and women and forms part of a series of celebratory concerts marking the band's 80th anniversary.

Saturday 28th June 2025 at 7:00pm (Doors open at 6:30pm)
St Nicholas Church, Rectory Lane, Sevenoaks, TN13 1JA
Tickets: £14 (£12 for concessions)
Book now: www.centralband.com/AFD2025

Proud Fundraiser for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

THE CENTRAL BAND



<https://www.britishlegion.org.uk>

<https://www.centralband.com>




SEVENOAKS VEGAN MARKET

FOOD & DRINK / SUSTAINABLE LIVING
COSMETICS / CHARITIES / & MORE!



5TH APR & 4TH OCT | 10:30-16:00
VINE GARDENS, TN13 3UH




VEGANMARKETS.CO.UK

Youth Council report on mental health

Two hundred and fifty young people shared their experiences and views on mental health in a survey carried out by Sevenoaks Youth Council which targeted young people aged 11-18 in the Sevenoaks town area.

Now the Mental Health Survey Report has been published, after the survey ran for two months closing in November 2024.

The questionnaire was distributed through local schools and youth organisations in the Sevenoaks town area, accompanied by posters signposting available support. The survey was designed to capture authentic, anonymous feedback about mental health from young people.

In terms of responses, the largest age groups were 13-14 years (43.78%) and 11-12 years (34.94%), with smaller percentages for the older age brackets at 15-16 years (18.88%) and 17-18 years (2.41%).

The survey findings reveal that academic pressures, self-image concerns, and experiences of bullying are among the primary factors negatively impacting young people's mental health.

More than 70% said they were very (23.48%) or somewhat (51.42%) comfortable discussing mental health. However, a significant proportion of respondents (25.10%) felt uncomfortable discussing mental health and/or remained uncertain about where to seek the help required.

Respondents were asked to suggest ways there could be done in the community to enhance mental health awareness, with 30.7% of respondents advocating for community-wide events, such as mental health awareness days and public campaigns while 6.6% requested more youth clubs, free activities and facilities within the town as well as more awareness of

those facilities that already exist.

To read the full survey, please scan the QR code.



WOULD YOU LIKE TO BECOME A YOUTH COUNCILLOR?

Aged 11- 18 years old and want to improve or make changes in your community? As a Sevenoaks Youth Councillor there are many different responsibilities that you would have, from attending the Youth Council meetings every six weeks to carrying out research and holding events. It looks great on UCAS applications as well as counting as Volunteering/Community service for awards such as DofE ASDAN & IB's CAS. To be considered or to find out more about the role, visit the Youth Council website sevenoakseyouthcouncil.weebly.com

OPEN MIC NIGHT! FOR AGES 11-17
FRIDAY 16TH MAY
 5:30-7:30 PM

GOT A TALENT? COME SHOW IT OFF!
NO NEED TO BOOK
FREE PIZZA FOR PERFORMERS!
PREFER TO CHILL? ENJOY OUR £3 MEAL DEAL!

SCAN THE QR BELOW FOR THE MAP!

WHERE: HITB (HOUSE IN THE BASEMENT YOUTH CAFÉ)
 LONDON ROAD, SEVENOAKS, TN13 1ZZ
WHAT3WORDS: ACTUAL.COVERS.INTERVALS

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT DAREN MOUNTAIN MANAGER OF HITB ON: MANAGER@HOUSEINTHEBASEMENT.CO.UK

FREE Youth cafe for all ages 11-17
 Your Space to Relax & Have Fun

Opening Hours:

Tuesday (SEN Club):	5 - 8 PM
Wednesday:	4 - 8 PM
Friday:	4 - 8 PM
Saturday:	2 - 8 PM

(During School Holidays we open at 2 pm instead of 4 pm)
 House in the basement is FREE for all to attend.

✉ info@houseinthebasement.co.uk
 ☎ 01732 466 593

Follow us for updates!!
 @HouseintheBasement
 @hitb_youth_cafe
 @houseinthebasement

Visit Us!
 In the Basement of the Stag Community Arts Centre,
 London Road, TN13 1ZZ.
What3Words: Actual.Covers.IntervalS

Sevenoaks Quarry

What's happening at the quarry?

Planning Permission was granted in October 2024 for the redevelopment of the site for 950 homes including 150 homes for older people and a new country park.

This will not only deliver new and affordable homes, but also community facilities, environmental benefits and much-needed improvements to infrastructure.

The planning application is available to view on the council's planning portal or via our website below.

Our work with the community is only just beginning.

Tarmac is now working with the community to understand what the needs of the residents of Sevenoaks are while working on the details of the development.



Tarmac were proud to be a main sponsor at last year's Sevenoaks Summer Festival. It was a great few weeks and thank you to the organisers for such a well run community event.



Find out more!

Visit our website by scanning the QR code or by going to <https://sevenoaks.tarmac.com/>

Have a question? Please do get in touch:

Call 0203 3706 735 or email georgekup@meeting-place.uk



We're right by you

We work as a team with our clients on a full range of business and individual legal matters to help them achieve the results they seek in their professional and personal lives.

www.berryandlamberts.co.uk



SEVENOAKS OFFICE - 01732 460565

First Floor, Hearts of Oak House, 4 Pembroke Road, Sevenoaks
Offices also at Tunbridge Wells and Paddock Wood



GREATNESS RECREATION GROUND PLAY AREA SURVEY

WE NEED YOUR RESPONSES!

Sevenoaks Town Council are asking local residents to give feedback on a proposed relocation of the play area and outdoor gym located at Greatness Recreation Ground.

The Greatness Recreation Ground Working Group have suggested moving the play area from its current location adjacent to the car park, further up to near the proposed new football pavilion.

The Town Council is grateful for your contributions and feedback.



To complete the new survey online scan the QR code:



Scan Me

Sevenoaks
Town Council

For more information or queries email: osl@sevenoakstown.gov.uk



Join the Friends of Greatness Recreation Ground

The next few years will see renewed investment in your area. Please join us in making plans for the future of this treasured green space.



Sevenoaks
Town Council

Follow us on social media on [f @SevenoaksTC](https://www.facebook.com/SevenoaksTC) [@sevenoakstowncouncil](https://www.instagram.com/sevenoakstowncouncil)

Together we'll be discussing:

- Playgrounds
- Sports Facilities
- Family Fun
- Health and Wellbeing
- Community Events
- The Skate Park
- Art Trails
- Tree Planting

and your ideas too!

If you are interested in joining contact us:

Email: osl@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

Tel: 01732 459 953

Bradbourne Vale Road,
Sevenoaks TN13 3QG

WHAT'S ON AT THE STAG SEVENOAKS

STAG
SEVENOAKS

WHAT'S ON SCREEN

THE ROYAL BALLET: ROMEO & JULIET
20TH MARCH

NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE: DR. STRANGELOVE
27TH MARCH

THE ROYAL OPERA: TURANDOT
1ST APRIL

ANDRÉ RIEU 75TH BIRTHDAY SPECIAL
12TH & 13TH APRIL

THE PENGUIN LESSONS
SHOWING FROM 18TH APRIL

THE ROYAL OPERA: DIE WALKÜRE
14TH MAY

EXHIBITION ON SCREEN: MICHELANGELO
20TH & 25TH MAY

BARGAIN WEDNESDAYS!

UPTO 50% OFF CINEMA TICKETS WHEN BOOKED ON THE DAY

BOX OFFICE: 01732 450175
WWW.STAGSEVENOAKS.CO.UK
THE STAG SEVENOAKS,
LONDON ROAD,
SEVENOAKS, TN13 1ZZ



WHAT'S ON STAGE

SNOW WHITE & ROSE RED (FAMILY BALLET)
21ST MARCH

KARL LOXLEY: SONGS FROM STAGE & SCREEN
21ST MARCH

TRIBUTE TO PEGGY LEE & ELLA FITZGERALD
27TH MARCH

TALES OF DAFNE & CALYPSO
3RD APRIL

THE ULTIMATE MOD REVUE
4TH APRIL

PINOCCHIO (STARRING BOBBY DAVRO)
5TH APRIL

FEAST OF FIDDLES
14TH APRIL

TEACH REX LIVE
16TH APRIL

AND SO MUCH MORE COMING UP!

BIC



FREE HOT DRINK OR POPCORN

ENJOY A FREE HOT DRINK OR SMALL POPCORN ON PRODUCTION OF THIS VOUCHER AND A VALID THEATRE OR CINEMA TICKET.
VALID UNTIL 01/05/25

STAG
SEVENOAKS

Find the volunteering role for you

As we come into Spring, would you like to engage in some voluntary work to do something positive and get to know some new people? Here are just some volunteering opportunities around in the area.

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS WITH IMAGO COMMUNITY CHARITY

Our community transport service Dial 2 Drive helps members of the community who have difficulty using public transport due to older age, illness or mobility problems in west Kent. Volunteer Drivers use their own cars to take clients to hospitals, clinics, day centres or social appointments. Drivers are reimbursed expenses

and drive when they are available. Some drivers carry out regular drives and others just a couple of drives a month. The service covers Tonbridge, Tunbridge Wells and Sevenoaks. This role requires a DBS check and references. Send a message via the website www.imago.community or call 01892 530330.

MENCAP, SEVENOAKS

At Sevenoaks MENCAP we require volunteers to help run simple art sessions at a social club on Fridays 7pm-9pm. We supply all the equipment for the attendees and are looking for people to chat with the people who turn up to socialise. We are a supportive group of volunteers and will give a warm welcome to anyone who wants to give it a go initially. We can be found on Facebook or people are welcome to contact 07570370419 to discuss this further.

SCHOOLS TRIATHLON EVENT VOLUNTEERS

Restless Development charity for young people, organiser of the Knight Frank



Volunteers will make the Triathlon event run smoothly

Schools Triathlon, has event volunteer opportunities at the Sevenoaks Schools Triathlon event being held on Sunday 11th May. There will be around 800 local school children taking part in the event to raise money for Restless Development and other local charities. Please email volunteers@restlessdevelopment.org

• For more volunteer opportunities see www.kentvolunteers.org.uk and also visit the Volunteers Showcase at the VE Day 80 celebrations at the Vine Gardens from 6pm on May 8.

SAMARITANS
Sevenoaks

Train to be a Samaritan

Volunteer with us
It takes training and skills to know what to say and do when people reach out for help. We will train, mentor and support you all the way.

To find out more and apply, visit samaritans.org/volunteer
Email Sevenoaks.recruitment@samaritans.org

Chris O'Donovan Photography/Samaritans
Sevenoaks Samaritans is part of Samaritans, a registered charity

Forget-me-not Cafés  *Companionship over a cuppa* 

Dementia-friendly cafe at Bat & Ball Station
TN14 5AP
10:30am - 12noon

Every last Wednesday of the month. Enjoy a warm welcome plus interesting talks and activities with refreshments. Free event.

2025 DATES

30th April The History of our Sevenoaks Markets by Cllr Tony Clayton

28th May When Sevenoaks Was Bombed by Bob Ogley

Cafes will then run on these dates.
Speakers announced nearer the time.

25th June 30th July 27th August
24th September 29th October
26th November No cafe in December

Parking:
There is free parking at Bat & Ball Centre or free Blue Badge parking in the Station carpark.

Any queries please contact
Council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk 01732 459953



bluebird care[®]



Sarah
Sevenoaks

Where you change *lives*

Where you
belong

Training & Support | Competitive Pay |
Flexible & Salaried Working

From rolling up your sleeves, to making a brew or helping
bake their signature flan. Whatever the day holds, you will be
equipped to deliver the very highest quality of care and take
delight in making a difference.

Become a Care Professional *today*.

Call us for a friendly chat on

01732 655 065

Or email

sevenoaks@
bluebirdcare.co.uk

*Find
out more*



Precept

Sevenoaks Town Council's total annual revenue budget for the 2025/26 financial year is £1,997,096. The average Band D household would pay £153.67 per year, equating to £2.96 per week.

OPEN SPACES & LEISURE

Allotments:
Bradbourne Vale Road
Quaker's Hall Lane
Bethel Road Burial Ground
Brittains Common
Brittains Lane Wood
Greatness Recreation Ground
The Green, Hillingdon Rise
Hanging Baskets
Horse Troughs (*Old Police Station, Rheinbach Gardens, St Botolph's Road*)
Judd's Piece
Land At:
Letterbox Lane
Littlewood
Tonbridge Road
Longspring Wood
Muga (Multi Use Games Area)
Middlings Wood
Millpond Wood
Planters (*The Shambles, Dorset Street, Pembroke Road, London Road, Buckhurst Lane*)
The Pound, Pound Lane
Raley's Field & Knole Paddock
Rheinbach Gardens
Sevenoaks Common
Sports Pitches
Upper High Street Gardens



Vine Cricket Ground & Pavilion
Vine Gardens
Public Toilet, Telephone Kiosk With Defibrillator
War Memorial
White Hart Beeches
Woodside Road Open Space

CAR PARKS

Raleys Car Park

PLAY AREAS

Buckhurst Lane Play Area
Greatness Recreation Ground & Playground
Hillingdon Rise Play Area
Julians Meadow & Playground
Kippington Meadow
Mount Close Open Space & Playground
Pontoise Close Open Space & Playground

SERVICES

Bat & Ball Centre (Formerly Sevenoaks Community Centre)
Available For Hire: Meetings, Conferences Etc.
Bat & Ball Station Building
(Including Café And Rooms Available To Hire)
batandballstation.com
Business Hub
Bus Shelters (*Dartford Road X1, Bradbourne Vale Road X2, London Road X2, Tonbridge Road X1*)
Café On The Vine
cafeonthevine.com
Consultees (*Planning, Highways, Etc*)
Grants To Local Organisations
Greatness Park Cemetery
House In The Basement (Hitb)
Youth Café (*available for hire*)
houseinthebasement.weebly.com
Info-Pods & Digital Display Screens
Litter Bins And Grit Bins
Markets (*Wednesday And Saturday*)
Masterplan For Northern Sevenoaks
Neighbourhood Development Plan
Orbital No 8 Bus
Public Clocks (*Jubilee Clock Old Market House And Warren Clock Above Brewers*)

Public Seats In Various Locations
Public Toilets (*The Stag, The Vine, Lower St Johns, Greatness Recreation Ground*)
Sevenoaks Town Team
sevenoakspartnership.org
Stag Community Arts Centre
Defibrillator In Foyer
stagevenoaks.co.uk
Street Lights In Some Unadopted Roads
Town Council Offices/Chamber
Available For Hire: Meetings, Conferences Etc.
Twinning With Pontoise And Rheinbach
Youth Council
sevenoaksyouthcouncil.weebly.com

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Christmas Illuminations In Town
Civic Functions
Vine Bandstand/Free Summer Concerts

SEVENOAKS TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES

Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks
TN13 3QG

Town Councillors 2023-2027

Name	Party	Name	Party
Eastern Ward		St Johns Ward	
Cllr L Ancrum	Liberal Democrat	Cllr S Camp	Liberal Democrat
Cllr A S Clayton	Liberal Democrat	Cllr Dr P Dixon	Liberal Democrat
Cllr S Layne	Liberal Democrat	Cllr D Skinner OBE	Liberal Democrat
Kippington Ward		Town Ward	
Cllr C Daniell	Liberal Democrat	Cllr V Granville	Liberal Democrat
Cllr C Gustard	Liberal Democrat	Cllr L Michaelides	Liberal Democrat
Cllr N Varley	Liberal Democrat	Cllr G Willis	Liberal Democrat
Northern Ward		Wilderness Ward	
Cllr Dr M Canet	Liberal Democrat	Cllr N Wightman	Liberal Democrat
Cllr L O'Hara	Liberal Democrat		
Cllr C Shea	Liberal Democrat		

To contact a Sevenoaks Town Councillor, please use the following email format: Cllr.Surname@sevenoakstown.gov.uk eg. to contact Councillor Ancrum, the email address would be: Cllr.Ancrum@sevenoakstown.gov.uk



Town Clerk/Chief Executive
Linda Larter MBE
townclerk@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

RFO/Deputy Town Clerk
Georgina Jackson
rfo@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

The Town Council or its Committees meet on most Monday evenings at 7pm and members of the public are welcome to attend. For further details of the meetings please contact the Town Council Offices on 01732 459953.
council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk