



Town Clerk's Update

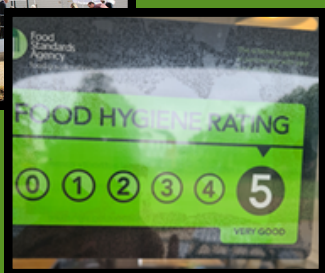
Council news and information from Sevenoaks Town Clerk, Linda Larter MBE

1st August 2025



Cafe on the Vine

Pleased to report that following the regular inspection by the Environmental Health Officer, this week the Café on the Vine received its 5 star rating. Well done Tracy who manages the venue.



Hollybush Recreation Ground

Hollybush Recreation Ground is one of the assets requested for transfer from Sevenoaks District Council to Sevenoaks Town Council, the request was turned down by the District Council due to projected income and being of strategic importance for the development of the depot in Otford Road. The Town Council is hoping to have the opportunity to appeal this decision.

In an effort to protect Hollybush Recreation Ground from any future development pressure or loss of community access, Sevenoaks Town Council has submitted the application to nominate the area as an 'Asset of Community Value'.

The Town Council's Planning & Environment Committee agreed that the nomination should also include the informal recreation field within the site, as well as the two steeper fields to the south of the Recreation Ground, which are often used for walking and community access to Knole Park. Sevenoaks Town Council is eager to retain opportunities for free outside recreation and keep these areas available for the community to use.



Tea Hut roof

A lot of what the Town Council does is not noticeable as it is not new or different, but ensuring that current facilities remain the same. Of course, they would be noticed if not maintained. This week the thatched roof 'Tea Hut' on the Vine had external repairs and was repainted. The building is currently used for storage by the Cricket Club.



Meetings

My meetings this week were:

- Planning & Environment Committee
- Kent Pension Fund
- Site visit to Buckhurst Play Area
- Site visit to Hollybush Recreation Ground

All of Sevenoaks Town Council's Meetings are open to the public and available to watch live on YouTube - see www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk for details.

Free entertainment for children

We have lots of free entertainment for children during the school holidays, including Family Fun Day on Monday 4th August, and children's theatre shows starting on 19th August.

Spaces can be booked for a free photo workshop on 27th August at:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/free-photo-workshop-hitb-for-young-people-aged-11-17-tickets-1512150626229?aff=oddttdcreator>

proudly presented by giles shenton productions
www.gilesshentonproductions.co.uk

Fungi and the Myco Heroes
by georgie taylor



a silly one hour, interactive show for 0-10 year olds and their families all about fungi and how they can help us save the environment!

19th August - Bat and Ball Centre, Sevenoaks - 2pm
20th August - Pointoise Park, Sevenoaks - 2pm
21st August - Greatness Recreation Ground, Sevenoaks - 2pm
22nd August - Vine Gardens, Sevenoaks - 2pm

all shows are free!

Sevenoaks town council

Join us at **FREE**

Family Fun Day
Monday 4 August
10.30 am - 1.30 pm
Greatness Recreation Ground
Sevenoaks



- Baby Dinosaur Show by Quest 4 Entertainment
- Rock painting for Sevenoaks in Bloom
- We Make Footballers Small Champions Play Place
- Games from West Kent Housing
- Kent Police bike marking
- Batch 18 refreshments & ice cream!

Sevenoaks DISTRICT COUNCIL

Sevenoaks town council



Complete our survey about the future of local community assets

The government's plans for Local Government Reorganisation are moving forward as the government says, 'At Pace'. Sevenoaks Town Council are not involved in the future of Kent County Council or Sevenoaks District Council, this is for them to agree plans with the government. However, the Town Council is very concerned about the future of local community assets which makes living, working and visiting Sevenoaks the town it is.

The Town Council already operates many community facilities but there are some which belong to Sevenoaks District Council and the concern is that when the district council ceases to exist these assets will automatically move to a new Unitary Authority who will be a considerable distance away and is likely to be overwhelmed with social care responsibilities and unable to have the capacity to worry about local parks or markets etc. in Sevenoaks.

The Town Council is seeking feedback from local residents in a survey on this matter. The survey can be found at https://www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk/_VirDir/CoreContents/News/Display.aspx?id=76535 or paper copies can be collected from the Town Council's office on Bradbourne Vale Road.

Britain in Bloom judging

We really are on the final countdown to Judging Day on 12th August. We have a Community Clear Up day on 5th August. Every weed that is removed helps us get nearer to achieving a GOLD award.

We welcome any assistance with:

- Weeding, watering and looking after plants in individual planting areas.
- Help removing weeds from pavements along judging route (map can be provided) ideally the weekend prior to judging.

If you would like to help, or know of any organisation that would, please let us know.

Photo below: Gardens at Rockdale Housing Association



Rockdale Open Gardens for Sevenoaks in Bloom

Rockdale Village are opening their In Bloom Gardens on Wednesday 13th August. Specific times will depend on numbers, but tours are planned at around 10.30 am and 2.30 pm. People must book in advance stating if they'd like a morning or afternoon slot, they can do so at enquiries@rockdale.org.uk or by calling 07466 184 341.



Music on the Bandstand

Music on the Bandstand is continuing this week and every Thursday and Sunday from until 7th September. Following feedback from previous years, we have introduced a more family-friendly atmosphere for our Thursday night performances. To support this, we are providing a bouncy castle as a child-friendly attraction.

Thursdays 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Sundays 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.



- Sunday 3rd August: Kent Youth Jazz Orchestra
- Thursday 7th August: Mainly Sax

Town Centre Masterplan –public consultation

We continue to consult on the Town Centre Masterplan. This is an important consultation wide ranging from how the town centre looks in the future to options to consider for changing traffic routes whether one way or potentially pedestrian areas. See our website for more details:

https://www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk/_VirDir/CoreContents/News/Display.aspx?id=76880

Planning

This week, Town Councillors were consulted on nine planning applications, an unusually low number.

Town Councillors agreed to support local residents and recommend to Sevenoaks District Council that the planning application for the demolition of the Greensands Care Home and construction of eight flats be refused on the grounds of Overlooking of Neighbouring Properties, Inappropriate Bulk and Massing of the Site, the Designs are incongruent with the Residential Character Area Assessment, Concerns over protection of TPO trees and Concerns about Biodiversity Net Gain calculations.

Town Councillors were also pleased to note that following lobbying about the previous Royal Oak Hotel development, it is now expected to retain reference to its name and be called 'The Old Royal Oak'.



Sevenoaks Town Council team

Leila at the Bat & Ball Station Café is now staying with us until the end of August.

Unfortunately, Mark our Senior Groundsman has decided to leave for personal reasons. We wish him well. We will start to recruit again ASAP.

Save the date

Visit our events page for more information: www.tinyurl.com/STCNewsEvents

Date	Event	Event
2nd August	Bradbourne Lakes Festival	Bradbourne Lakes
3rd August	Bandstand: Kent Youth Jazz Orchestra	Vine
4th August	Family Fun Day	Greatness Rec.
5th August	Bloom Tidy Up Day	Town Centre
7th August	Bandstand: Mainly Sax	Vine
10th August	Bandstand: Miss D & The Loop	Vine
12th August	Britain in Bloom Judging	Town Centre
14th August	Bandstand: Youth Open Mic Night	Vine
15th August	VJ Day 11 a.m. Flag Raising 6 p.m. Bandstand Concert	Vine
17th August	Bandstand: Ian Fox	Vine
19th August	Children's Theatre: Fungi Frida & Myco Heroes	Bat & Ball Centre
20th August	Children's Theatre: Fungi Frida & Myco Heroes	Pontoise Park
21st August	Children's Theatre: Fungi Frida & Myco Heroes	Greatness Recreation Ground
21st August	Bandstand: Sevenoaks & Tonbridge Concert Band	Vine
22nd August	Children's Theatre: Fungi Frida & Myco Heroes	Vine
24th August	Bandstand: Kent Police Band	Vine
7th September	Bandstand: Almost the Last Night of the Proms with Oxted Band	Vine

