



Town Clerk's Update

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

23 June 2025

Welcome

I'm pleased to share the second issue of my Town Clerk's Update. I am often asked by the public what my job entails, so during 2025 Local Council Clerk Week, I decided to make a public blog for those who are interested. I hope you enjoy reading the latest news from Sevenoaks Town Council.

Refugee Week

Last week was all about Refugee Week. On Monday morning, the Mayor started the week with a short flag raising event at the Vine. During the week, the Town Council hosted the Desperate Journeys project in its car park. This has been well attended by many schools, scouts and local residents.



Staff matters

I am pleased to say we have now recruited a part-time caretaker for the weekends at Bat & Ball Centre, who will be starting with us soon.

Free Skateboard events

A reminder that Sevenoaks Town Council has secured funding to provide exciting, free skateboard, scooter and BMX events for young people. Free skateboarding sessions can be booked at www.samsarasport.co.uk/greatness.



Greatness Recreation Ground – Football & Community Pavilion

I am delighted that we have been able to publicise the success of the Football Foundation (£759,100) and Stadium (£150,000) grants towards the new Greatness Recreation Ground – Football & Community Pavilion.

Between Sevenoaks Town Football Club and Sevenoaks Town Council, just under £2m external funding has been obtained for this project. Funding is now secured to commence this. Budget restrictions has required some 'value engineering' (reduction in specification). The project now covers the construction of the shell of the building. Further fundraising will be ongoing for the fit out, car park and landscaping.

All going well, we are trying to sort out legal, administrative and contract matters to commence September/October 2025.



Britain in Bloom judging and help needed

Thank you to Purelake for decorating their hoardings and raising awareness of our Bloom entry.



We are now getting close to our first judging date on 11th July. We have two Community Clear Up Days on 8th July and 5th August. A reminder that we welcome any assistance for the following:

- 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 or you know of any organisation who can help in any way, we would be very pleased to hear from you. Please contact osl@sevenoakstown.gov.uk.

Association of Town and City Management

This week, Cllr Victoria Granville and I attended the two day Association of Town and City Management conference, which was focusing on culture and how it benefits town centres.

With our aim for a Cultural Quarter in Sevenoaks as part of the Sevenoaks Town Neighbourhood Plan, it gave us much to think about.

Town Centre Masterplan – public consultation

We will launch the Town Centre Masterplan at the Sevenoaks Society Community Open Day on 28th June.



Sevenoaks Town Council sponsored events & activities



It was a busy weekend – the two week Summer Festival started on Saturday with its annual Summer Fair Day, with music and activities happening across the town centre. Sevenoaks Town Council had a stall in Bligh's. The Town Council sponsors and provides practical support and venues for the Summer Festival. However, all the hard work is undertaken by the long standing Festival volunteers. We hope the public will support them in attending the shows and events. Find out more information at www.sevenoaksfestival.org.uk.



Sunday morning was the Mayor Cllr Tony Clayton's Civic Service. This is an annual tradition where the congregation and community welcome the Mayor to their new role.

On Sunday afternoon, we had band Jonah's Wail playing music on the bandstand. They have also been booked for this year's Holly Party.

Save the date

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

| Day | Date | Event | Venue |
|----------|-------------|--|--------------------|
| Saturday | 28th June | Sevenoaks Society Community Day – Launch of Town Centre Masterplan | Stag |
| Saturday | 28th June | Armed Forces Day Concert | St Nicholas Church |
| Tuesday | 8th July | Bloom Tidy Up Day | Town Centre |
| Friday | 11th July | South & South East Bloom Judging Day | Town Centre |
| Friday | 25th July | Skateness Event | Greatness Rec |
| Tuesday | 5th August | Bloom Tidy Up Day | Town Centre |
| Tuesday | 12th August | Britain in Bloom Judging | Town Centre |

