

Town Clerk's Update

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

25th July 2025



Meetings

My meetings this week were:

- Finance & Delivery Committee
- Council Meeting
- Meeting Tunbridge Wells Soroptimist to discuss potential Tunbridge Wells Town Council
- Sevenoaks District Council and Clerks within the District
- Sevenoaks in Bloom
- International Institute of Municipal Clerks.

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

Sevenoaks Town Council team

I am pleased to say that one of the young people, Jamie, who carried out Work Experience with our Open Spaces team is going to work for us for a couple of days per week during the summer.

Skate Jam 2025

We have regularly held skate events, this year they seem to be the most successful, including a lot more girls becoming involved.

I'm so pleased that the sunshine came out today which means the Skate Jam event looks a roaring success. Lots of young people out in the fresh air and being supported by local organisations including Police, Barclays Bank, The Repair Café, West Kent Communities, SAYT and of course HitB Youth Café.



Local Government Reorganisation & 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 in a survey from local residents 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.

A reminder that we welcome any assistance for the following. We have a Community Clear Up day on 5th August. Every weed that is removed helps us get nearer to achieving a GOLD award.

- Weeding, watering and looking after plants in individual planting areas – (list can be provided).
- 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.



Reusable Party Kits

We launched this project at the May Climate Fair. This enables use of sustainable products for parties, free of charge instead of purchasing disposable items. These Reusable Party Kits are being used nearly every weekend.



Free Photo Workshop at House in the Basement

House in the Basement Youth Café is hosting another free event for young people during the school holidays on Wednesday 27th August – a free photo workshop. There are limited spaces, which can be booked at: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/free-photo-workshop-hitb-for-young-people-aged-11-17-tickets-1512150626229?aff=oddttdtcreator>



Music on the Bandstand

Continuing this week and every Thursday and Sunday from 20th July to 7th September (except 27th July).

Thursdays 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Sundays 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.



- Sunday 27th July: No band due to Smash Cricket
- Thursday 31st July: Sevenoaks soprano Fiona Henry & mezzo soprano Aria Henry

New plaques to be installed

Bob Ogley, local historian and author, recently published the book 'Sevenoaks 1940'. Bob said, "Since the publication of my new book several readers have asked why there are no plaques to mark the spots where bombs caused such great destruction."

Bob approached the Town Council about this, and we were delighted to help him by commissioning these plaques. The photograph is of Bob talking to the Deputy Mayor and Councillors about the plaques.



Planned plaque locations

Planned plaque locations	
Walthamstow Hall, Holly Bush Lane	Former gymnasium destroyed in an air raid
Bus Station, Buckhurst Lane	Site of cottages destroyed by bombing
Boots Optician, High Street	Marks the destruction of Youngs Furniture Depository
The Vine Gardens	Site of the Sevenoaks Club Hall (town theatre), lost during the war



Save the date

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

Date	Event	Event
27th July	Smash Cricket	Vine
31st July	Bandstand: Soprano Fiona Henry	Vine
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
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
28th August	Bandstand: West Kent Concert Band	Vine
31st August	Smash Cricket	Vine
6th September	Street Food Festival	Vine
7th September	Bandstand: Almost the Last Night of the Proms with Oxted Band	Vine
20th September	Sevenoaks Bike Festival	Vine
4th October	Vegan Food Festival	Vine

