



# Town Clerk's Update

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

27 June 2025



## Mayor's Civic Service

We started the week with Mayor Cllr Tony Clayton's Civic Service. The service welcomed the Mayor to his role and introduced his two charities – Citizens Advice Bureau (yes, it is a charity) and Sevenoaks Area Youth Trust.

The service focused on community and around the following statement:

### We believe in Community

A community where all work together for the common good as we seek together to make a better life. We believe we are called to share our lives, so as to free each other from poverty, oppression and indignity. We believe the resources of the world are to be shared among all people, not just some. We seek a world where all have access to warmth, food and shelter, and a chance to live in dignity and peace.

We are lucky to have a multi-talented Mayor – on Sunday he was also directing traffic.



## Town Centre Masterplan – public consultation

We will launch the Town Centre Masterplan at the Sevenoaks Society event this Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June. Hopefully there will be a lot of interest in all the ideas and suggestions formed via local consultation workshops

## Britain in Bloom judging and help needed

The Mayor, Deputy Mayor and William Moore from our In Bloom sponsor Berry & Lamberts were out and about judging the In Bloom Shop Window Competition this week. Winners to be announced next week.

This week we also had offers of help from the Darent Valley Community Rail Partnership to help with the flower bed at the front of Sevenoaks Station.

We also picked up some additional plants from Alice's Flower Stall at Sevenoaks Market.

The owners of the Farmers Site have promised to paint their hoardings in time for judging.



We are now getting close to our first judging date on 11th July. We have two Community Tidy Up Days on 8th July and 5th August. We welcome 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](mailto:osl@sevenoakstown.gov.uk).



## Free skateboard events

A reminder that Sevenoaks Town Council has secured funding to provide exciting, free skateboard, scooter and BMX events for young people.

Skate Jam 2025 is on 25 July at Greatness Skate Park.



Every Thursday until 17 July, we have free skateboarding sessions. These can be booked at [www.samsarasport.co.uk/greatness](http://www.samsarasport.co.uk/greatness).



## Sevenoaks Town Council team

### Work experience

This is the time of year when we welcome students for work experience. They are with us for a week and experience all aspects of our administration. They are normally given an individual small project to complete. We have four booked in this year, starting next week.

### Celebrating Paula Woolhouse

This week we took the opportunity to thank Paula Woolhouse for her 40 years of Youth Service. She has helped many young people during that time and continues to do so. Paula works at the House in the Basement Youth Café and alongside her normal duties also leads on encouraging young people to join in gardening of flowers and vegetables at the venue.

The Youth Café Team surprised her by arranging for the Mayor to provide her with a certificate and plant to mark this milestone.



### Derrick's trip to Rotterdam

Thank you to Derrick for his holiday photo. I can confirm that these are not our new offices in Rotterdam.





# Sevenoaks Town Council sponsored events & activities

Saturday, as mentioned, we will be attending The Sevenoaks Society Community Open Day and launching the Town Centre Masterplan – which has a lot of interesting ideas for the future, not least ideas for changing traffic flows – we look forward to hearing views on this.

Also on Saturday, Colourscape will be returning to the Vine. This is an amazing, exciting, visual and audio experience. Where science meets art and music, as you walk through the structure of inter-connected chambers that are alive with intense colour.



**THE SEVENOAKS SOCIETY**  
For the conservation and improvement of the Town

**COMMUNITY OPEN DAY**  
**SATURDAY 28TH JUNE 2025**  
**STAG PLAZA SUITE**

**10 - 4**  
**FREE ENTRY** everyone welcome

**10.30**  
Formal Opening by Lord Sackville and  
"LIFE AT KNOLE IN 2025"

**12 - 4**  
Sevenoaks Town Centre Masterplan

**2.30**  
Katey Bell of  
Sevenoaks Climate Action Network (SCAN)  
"Improving home energy efficiency and  
reducing its carbon footprint"

Generously supported by and in association with  
**Sevenoaks town council**



**ARMED FORCES DAY**

In partnership with **Sevenoaks town council**

**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.

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](http://www.centralband.com/AFD2025)

Proud Fundraiser for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

**HD PRODUCTION**  
**ROYAL BRITISH LEGION**  
**THE CENTRAL BAND**  
**Sevenoaks DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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

Saturday evening is the Armed Forces Day concert, performed by the Central Band of the Royal British Legion at St Nicholas Church.



On Sunday, at the Vine Bandstand at 3pm, ukulele group SEVENUKES is playing a mixture of popular and traditional music.



## Town and Parish Council Sector

Monday, I attended the NALC (National Association of Local Councils) event in London with Cllr Chloe Gustard to listen to colleagues from across the country about their experience of Local Government Reorganisation. Some have been through it and now have Unitary Authorities, some are in the same position as us preparing for it to happen if current proposals go ahead. The Under Secretary of State was also present to listen to feedback from Town and Parish Councils.

Tuesday evening, Cllr Shea and I attended the public meeting in Tonbridge where campaigners are putting forward the case to have a Town Council of their own. It has been an aim and campaign for some time but now seems more important with the expected disappearance of Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council as it merges into a larger authority which would be more remote. The concern is that there will be a democratic deficit for those living in Tonbridge. It was a lively debate and Cllr Shea and I and others on the panel were able to answer many questions about Town Councils.

## Save the date

Visit our events page for more information: [www.tinyurl.com/STCNewsEvents](http://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

Wishing you all a good weekend.

Linda

