

Town Clerk's Update

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

1 October 2026



What an amazing community Sevenoaks has. It is simply extraordinary that over 600 people and businesses have made pledges ranging from £5 - £10,000 to help Sevenoaks Town Council purchase the freehold of the Stag.

Currently we are above target at £117,000 of pledges. We will soon be making contact with everyone who has pledged so we can progress turning these pledges into real donations.

Donations will be formally recognised as we move forward with the process of negotiating the freehold from Sevenoaks District Council.



More success for Sevenoaks in Bloom

Following on from the success of last week's Sevenoaks in Bloom results, we are delighted that Sevenoaks in Bloom received another award - 'Highly Commended' at the Kent Life Garden of the Year Awards.

Thank you to everyone who volunteers on this project and the STC Team for this achievement.



Café on the Vine

We understand that there have been rumours circulating about the Town Council 'selling' the Café on the Vine – this is completely untrue.

The Town Council are seeking a concession to operate the café. We understand that people can be concerned about change, however we are hoping to repeat the success at Bat & Ball Station where the café is now run by Lilia's Kitchen and is very popular with the community.

The Vine and its facilities are important to the Town Council as evidenced by the continued investment and many community events held there including our free Music on the Bandstand concerts - Friday's Dolly Parton free tribute concert was enjoyed by hundreds of people.

Negotiations are currently ongoing with a concession and it is hoped that this will be finalised in the near future. We, including the current Café Manager, look forward to working with them in the new year.



Café
on the
Vine



Greatness Original Pavilion – Expressions of Interest for Future Use

Following the recent completion of the new Greatness Football and Community Centre, delivered in partnership by Sevenoaks Town Council and Sevenoaks Town FC, the original Greatness Pavilion previously used by the football club is now available. The Town Council is inviting Expressions of Interest for the future use of the building at Greatness Recreation Ground.

Greatness Pavilion is a brick building situated adjacent to Greatness Recreation Ground car park and offers a function room, small kitchen/café area, toilets and showers.

The Town Council is keen to hear from parties with ideas for how to use Greatness Pavilion in a way that complements the surrounding facilities.

Greatness Recreation Ground is a popular park for local residents and visitors, including those attending matches and training at Sevenoaks Town Football Club. The site is also benefiting from an exciting programme of improvements. The Town Council is soon installing a new playground, as well as a new outdoor gym by the end of 2026, with additional landscaping also planned during the autumn.

Expression of Interest forms can be downloaded from the Sevenoaks Town Council website at www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk/eoi-greatness-pavilion. These must be returned to Sevenoaks Town Council by 31 December 2026. Expressions of Interest will then be considered by the Community Asset Committee on 25 January 2027.





Sevenoaks
TOWN COUNCIL



CONSERVATION DAYS VOLUNTEER AT LONGSPRING WOOD

Sevenoaks Town Council is enhancing biodiversity at Longspring Wood. Initial work focuses on removing invasive species and carrying out targeted planting.

We're seeking volunteers to assist with the control of rhododendron, and help with 'rhododendron bashing', to protect the woodland.

**FRIDAY 13 &
SATURDAY 14
NOVEMBER
10AM-1PM**

No experience needed, any volunteers are very welcome to join! If you would like to get involved, please email communityeng@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

01732 459953
www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk



www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk



SevenoaksTC



[sevenoakstowncouncil](https://www.instagram.com/sevenoakstowncouncil)

Sevenoaks Art Club Fundraising for Mayor's Charity – Hospice in the Weald

Sevenoaks Art Club's Brushworks Exhibition is being held at Kaleidoscope Gallery, from 11 -21 November. Funds from the exhibition will be donated to the Mayor's Charity Fund for Hospice in the Weald.

Please support the exhibition and worthwhile cause.



My Meetings

My meetings since my last update were:

- Complaint Panel Hearing
- Community Asset Committee*
- Town of Sanctuary
- Library of Things Project
- Sevenoaks Town Team
- Christmas Lights Switch On Planning Meeting
- Remembrance Service Planning Meeting
- KALC Finance Conference

Sevenoaks Town Council's main meetings* are open to the public who are welcome to address Councillors and available to watch live on YouTube see www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk for details.



Kent Biodiversity & Regenerative Food Festival

Come along to the Vine Gardens this Saturday 3 October for a free festival that brings together and celebrates the growers, producers and organisations that contribute to a regenerative local food system and a wilder, more nature-filled region.

You'll find live music all day alongside a collection of regenerative & organic growers, bakers, makers, street food vendors, crafters, charities, community groups, demos and more!

Find out more at:
www.regenerativefoods.co.uk/events/kent



Save the date

Visit our events page for more information: sevenoakstown.gov.uk/events

Date	Event	Venue
Saturday 3 October	Kent Biodiversity & Regenerative Food Festival	Vine
Wednesday 28 October	Forget-me-not Cafe: free dementia- friendly event	Bat & Ball Station
Sunday 8 November	Remembrance Service	War Memorial
Wednesday 11 November to Saturday 21 November	Sevenoaks Art Club's Brushworks Exhibition	Kaleidoscope Gallery
Friday 13 November	Longspring Wood - Volunteer Day	Longspring Wood
Saturday 14 November	Longspring Wood - Volunteer Day	Longspring Wood
Friday 20 November	Sevenoaks Business Awards	Bat & Ball Centre
Wednesday 25 November	Forget-me-not Cafe: free dementia- friendly event	Bat & Ball Station
Saturday 28 November	Christmas Lights Switch-On	High Street
Friday 11 December	Holly Party	Bat & Ball Centre
Saturday 13 February	Mayor's Fundraising Quiz	Bat & Ball Centre

It seems as if everyone wants to have their conferences at the same time this year. I will be working whilst attending the following conferences in October:

- KALC Finance Conference - I am one of the presenters
- Netherlands Clerks Conference - I will be presenting on Civility & Respect.
- SLCC Conference - I am one of the presenters
- Belgium Clerks Conference

Wishing you a good weekend. Hoping that the weather stays fine for the Biodiversity & Regenerative Food Festival on Saturday.

Linda

