



From Sevenoaks Town Council for the Community of Sevenoaks

November 2016

Message from the Mayor of Sevenoaks, Cllr Andrew Eyre

When I was first elected as a Town Councillor in 2007 I was part of the new team which wanted to give a new purpose to the Town Council. To be part of the Council which delivered more for the people of our beautiful town.

I read that an aspiration is the ambition to achieve something and it is being part of such an aspiration which has driven that original aim – in taking over and developing the markets in the Town; in providing more events both in the Town Centre and on the rejuvenated Vine Gardens; and in developing a neighbourhood plan for the whole town and especially a master plan to continue to re-develop the North of the town.

In July my wife and I visited our German twin town of Rheinbach and I was very glad to have met the Mayor of Rheinbach. It was interesting in these tumultuous times both in Europe and across the World to listen and hear that there continues to be so much more which joins us as peoples than separates us. To hear that being part of Europe is friendly and geographical and how important it is that we continue to speak as friends together.

In August I was privileged to welcome a group of Chinese visitors and particularly enjoyed the lively and upbeat questions from the children of the party who wanted to learn about Sevenoaks and about the United Kingdom.

There are now so many events on the Vine Garden which the Town Council has turned into the Town's new central square – markets, music and a relaxed and green place where a safe open space and play is available for everyone. Don't forget to try the excellent cup of coffee and bacon sandwich or cake at the Café on The Vine.

During the South & South East in Bloom competition this Summer, the Vine Gardens won a gold medal and we ran a competition for local schools. The resultant wheelbarrows were full of bright plants and even brighter ideas on the design of planting and the use of plants and I was very pleased to have visited Lady Boswell's School recently to present their award in front of the entire school.

After that assembly, a young student came up to me and spoke of her aspiration to become Mayor – of course it is possible. She wanted to be part of the School Council and we talked about the Sevenoaks Town Youth Council which gives young voices in the Town a platform to develop their aspirations. At another visit, a young man from a local Troop of Beavers told me how he wanted to help people and it is heartening to see such careful and altruistic thought in one so young.

I was told recently that a very young man had told his Mother that someone had been to visit his school. He wasn't sure who but he thought it had been the Prime Minister. After a short pause he decided that, no perhaps it had been a Pirate after all. I am inspired that someone so young knew that the post of 'Prime Minister' existed but still continued to express himself so freely that his aspirations and imagination could run free. It is that exuberant, happy and giving character which for me is at the centre of the reaction I get when I meet and talk with the people of Sevenoaks.

Whether as Prime Minister or as Pirate or as your Town Mayor, I want to wish each of you a very Happy Christmas and for us all – locally, nationally and internationally – to look forward to a happy and prosperous New Year.




Christmas Lights Switch On Events 2016



SEVENOAKS CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH-ON
Friday 25th November 2016
Mayor of Sevenoaks and Pantomime Cast to Switch on lights at 7:30pm
 High Street closes at 5:30pm
 Entertainment from 6pm
 Christmas Stalls
 Fairground Rides
 Reindeer
 For more info contact Sevenoaks Town Council on 01732 459953 or council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

Sevenoaks town council
 deliveroo
 a-plan
 THE HERITAGE WINDOW COMPANY
 CONSERVATION BY DESIGN
 TESCO Metro
 Specsavers

Hollybush Christmas Lights Switch On 2016

Thursday 24th November
 Mayor attending 5:30pm to turn on lights 6:00pm

All shops open until 8:00pm

Rafferty's hosting Street BBQ
 Musical entertainment
 Face painting and glitter tattoos
 Cookie and Cake decorating with Positive Steps

Follow #Hollybush or call 01732 456431/01732 758833 for more info

f [facebook.com/larkhollybush](https://www.facebook.com/larkhollybush) or [facebook.com/emilyandjacks](https://www.facebook.com/emilyandjacks)

@larkhollybush or @emilyandjacks

You can find all the information you need for the Christmas Lights Switch On events here:
www.sevenoakschristmaslights.co.uk or www.hollybushchristmaslights.wordpress.co.uk

Generous donations of £10,000 and £3,000 enables more new Christmas Lights for Sevenoaks

Sevenoaks Town Council has been gradually replacing and installing additional Christmas Lights throughout the town.

The new Christmas Lights have an icicle theme and have been very well received from the local community with numerous compliments being forwarded to the Town Council.

For 2016 the Town Council has made a concerted effort to raise funds from local businesses towards the annual costs related to Christmas Lights and for the installation of new lights. It is pleased to have the support of the Sevenoaks Town Partnership and Chamber of Commerce in doing this.

We are pleased to report that Specsavers has one again contributed its £2,500 sponsorship towards the Switch On Event to be held on Friday 25th November 2016. Sponsorship has also been received from the following companies A Plan, Berry & Lamberts Solicitors, The Chinaman, County Perry Independent Financial Advisers, The Chapel, Deliveroo, Heaven, Heritage Windows, Sevenoaks Business Centre, Sevenoaks Computers, Sheffield Chartered Surveyors, Sevenoaks Hearing, Strutt & Parker and Sun Do Restaurant.

In addition to this Sevenoaks Town Council has received an incredibly generous offer from FM Conway of £10,000. This will enable the programme of new lights at the following areas to be installed:-

Lights in the trees in London Road
 Corner of High Street / Pembroke Road
 Bank & Dorset Street
 Illuminated Stags on the Vine

Michael Conway, Chief Executive Officer of FM Conway, said:
 "We are delighted to be able to support this year's Christmas lighting in partnership with Sevenoaks Town Council. We hope they will bring a smile to many faces in the town!"

"FM Conway recently relocated to a modern new head office in Sevenoaks and we look forward to continuing to strengthen our relationship with the Sevenoaks community over the coming years."

A further generous £1,000 donation from Deliveroo has enabled live Reindeer to be provided at the Christmas Lights Switch on Event on 25th November 2016.

SEVENOAKS MARKETS DURING DECEMBER

Operating as usual throughout the month, then on these additional dates:

BLIGH'S 9am – 4pm daily, Sat 10th – Sat 24th December	HIGH STREET 9am – 4pm, Thursday 22nd, Friday 23rd, Saturday 24th December	WEDNESDAYS 7th, 14th, 21st December 8am – 2pm
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For more info contact Bonnie Tarling on 01732 459953 or admin.tp@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

Quakers Hall Allotments

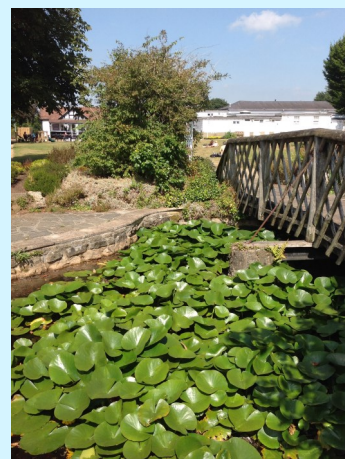
Unfortunately Sevenoaks Town Council and the Sevenoaks Allotment Holders Association could not reach an agreement regarding a new lease. Therefore the legal year's Notice to Quit has been served on the allotment association. This does not impact allotment tenants who will continue as always to be able to work their allotments. The changeover of management of the site from the allotment association to the Town Council will take place in the autumn of 2017.

Sevenoaks Youth Council

The first meeting of the new Youth Council took place on 12th October 2016 and was a very energetic and enthusiastic meeting. The new Youth Council consists of the following members – Ana Lawther, Charlotte Humm, Daniel Izu (Chairman), James Armitage (Treasurer), Katie Willis, Malcolm Briery (Vice Chairman), Oliver Firth-Humm, Phoebe Critchlow, Zak Young, Estella Damford, Sam Chard, Elise Van Den Hoek and Katherine Magee.

Vine Bridge to be Restored

Sevenoaks Town Council is continuing with its investment into the Vine area. Refurbishment to the exterior of the Vine Pavilion and Tea Kiosk is nearly completed and due to generous KCC Member Grants from Cllr Margaret Crabtree and Cllr Richard Parry work will commence in the near future on the complete refurbishment of the Vine Bridge.



Sevenoaks Town Partnership to consider creation of a Business Improvement District

The next meeting of the Sevenoaks Town Partnership will take place on Wednesday 23rd November, 6.30 p.m. at the Stag Bar, Stag Community Arts Centre. At the beginning of the meeting will be a presentation relating to Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) from the Association of Town & City Management.

A business improvement district (BID) is a defined area within which businesses are required to pay an additional tax (or levy) in order to fund projects. The BID is often funded primarily through the levy but can also draw on other public and private funding streams.

All Sevenoaks Businesses and residents are welcome to attend the meeting.

The future of Northern Sevenoaks

Sevenoaks Town Council has taken a bold step for a Town Council and is directly commissioning a Masterplan for the Northern Sevenoaks Area. The Masterplan, a tool more typically used by larger councils, will be created by planning consultants following a number of stakeholder workshops with members of the local community and local landowners.

The Town Council is hopeful that the exercise will help to guide development in the area over the coming decades, in particular planning positively for the return of the current landfill site and quarry which are due to return to public use within this timescale. In addition, the Town Council would like to see suggestions for improved access to the Wildlife Reserve, and improvements to the road network to alleviate the congestion faced in the area.

The finished Masterplan will help to influence the District Council's Local Plan Review, and the policies contained within the Town Council's emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Anyone wishing to be kept informed of the process can contact Sevenoaks Town Council via planning@sevenoakstown.gov.uk to be added onto the Neighbourhood Plan distribution list.

Town Councillors 2015-2019

NAME	PARTY
EASTERN WARD	
Cllr E T Waite	Liberal Democrat
Cllr A S Clayton	Liberal Democrat
Cllr Mrs P C Walshe	Liberal Democrat
KIPPINGTON WARD	
Cllr A Eyre	Conservative
Cllr R J Parry	Conservative
Cllr R L Piper	Conservative
NORTHERN WARD	
Cllr Mrs R E Parry	Conservative
Cllr P E Towell	Conservative
Cllr M Canet	Liberal Democrat
ST JOHNS WARD	
Cllr M A Chakowa	Conservative
Cllr R M C Hogarth	Conservative
Cllr S G Raikes	Conservative
TOWN WARD	
Cllr N J L Busvine OBE	Conservative
Cllr E Parson	Conservative
Cllr O Schneider	Conservative
WILDERNESSE WARD	
Cllr S L Arnold	Conservative

To contact a Sevenoaks Town Councillor, please use the following email format:
Cllr.surname@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

i.e. To contact Councillor Piper, the email address would be:
Cllr.piper@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

Functions & Facilities Provided By Sevenoaks Town Council

Precept

The Town Council's portion of the Council Tax for the Financial year 2016/2017 is £973,618 per year equivalent to £105.53 per Band D House.

- ALLOTMENTS
- ARMED FORCES DAY TOWN SUPPORTERS
- BETHEL ROAD BURIAL GROUND
- BRITAINS COMMON
- BRITAINS LANE WOOD
- BUCKHURST LANE PLAY AREA
- BUS SHELTERS (*Dartford Road x2, St John's Hill x3, Bradbourne Vale Road x1, London Road x4, Seal Road x1, Tonbridge Road x1*)
- CHRISTMAS TOWN ILLUMINATIONS
- CIVIC FUNCTIONS
- CONSULTEES (*Planning, Highways, etc.*)
- FREE SUMMER CONCERTS/ VINE BANDSTAND
- GRANTS TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS
- GREATNESS PARK CEMETERY
- GREATNESS RECREATION GROUND & PLAYGROUND
- HANGING BASKETS
- HILLINGDON RISE PLAY AREA
- HITB (HOUSE IN THE BASEMENT) YOUTH CAFÉ
- HORSE TROUGHS (*Old Police Station, Rheinbach Gardens, St Boltophs Road*)
- INFO-PODS & DIGITAL DISPLAY SCREENS
- THE GREEN, HILLINGDON RISE
- JUBILEE CLOCK (*Old Market House*)
- JUDD'S PIECE
- JULIANS MEADOW & PLAYGROUND
- KIPPINGTON MEADOW
- LAND AT:
 - LETTERBOX LANE
 - LITTLEWOOD
 - TONBRIDGE ROAD
- LITTER BINS AND GRIT BINS
- SPORTS PITCHES
- MARKETS
- MIDDLEINGS WOOD
- MILLPOND WOOD
- MOUNT CLOSE OPEN SPACE & PLAYGROUND
- NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN
- ORBITAL NO 8 BUS PLANTERS (*The Shambles, Dorset Street, Pembroke Road, London Road, Buckhurst Lane*)
- PONTOISE CLOSE OPEN SPACE & PLAYGROUND
- PUBLIC TOILETS (*The Stag, The Vine, Lower St Johns*)
- RALEYS CAR PARK
- RALEYS & KNOLE PADDOCK
- RHEINBACH GARDENS
- SEVENOAKS COMMON
- SEVENOAKS COMMUNITY CENTRE – Available for hire – meetings, conferences
- SEVENOAKS TOWN PARTNERSHIP
- SEVENOAKS YOUTH COUNCIL
- STAG COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE
- STREET LIGHTS IN SOME UNADOPTED ROADS
- THE POUND
- TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES / CHAMBER – Available for hire – meetings, conferences
- TWINNING WITH PONTOISE AND RHEINBACH
- UPPER HIGH STREET GARDENS
- VARIOUS PUBLIC SEATS, VINE GARDENS (*including Public Toilet*)
- VINE CRICKET GROUND & PAVILION (*including Tea Kiosk*)
- VINE CAFÉ
- VINE WASTE
- VINTAGE BUS
- WAR MEMORIAL
- WHITE HART BEECHES
- WOODSIDE ROAD OPEN SPACE
- YOUTH COUNCIL

Sevenoaks Town Council

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Sevenoaks; Kent; TN13 3QG
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Email: council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk
Web: www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk

Saturday Markets



Wednesday Market

High Street & Bligh's Meadow



Buckhurst Lane

